

POL 27

BIAFRA - NIGERIA

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STATE DEPARTMENT SYSTEMATIC FC

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☒ Declassify with concurrence of

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Date 3/13/96

Withdrawal No.

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Authority

By

NND 949527
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11-07-04



POL 7 NIGERIA
POL 27 BIAFRA NIGERIA
Department of State
TELEGRAM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 995

PAGE 01 LAGOS 07085 020042Z

ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, EA 10, NEA 13, IO 13, SAH 03, OPR 02, ACDA 16, CIAE 00, DODE 00,

GPM 03, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SC 01, SP 02,

SS 20, USIA 12, RSR 01, 153 W

R 291320Z FEB 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9563
INFO AMEMBASSY KARACHI 9
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AMEMBASSY RAWALPINDI 5
AMEMBASSY ACCRA 1610
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 393
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA 577
AMEMBASSY LONDON 2123
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA 727
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY 915
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 1050
USUN NY 250

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 7085

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (INFO ADDRES ADDDED)

SUBJ: NIGERIAN COMMISSIONER EXTERNAL AFFAIRS ON PEACE-KEEPING
1. FMG COMMISSIONER EXTAFF ARIKPO, NOW ON TOUR SOUTH ASIA
EXPLAIN FMG POLICY TOWARD REBELS, QUOTED BY FMG MININFO RELEASE
AS SAYING IN DELHI FEB-26 THAT FMG HAD NOT MADE ANY
REQUEST FOR COMMONWEALTH PEACE-KEEPING FORCE. SAID

PAGE 2 RUTALS 7085CC C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
FEDERAL TROOPS AND POLICE" SUFFICIENTLY DISCIPLINED TO
UNDERTAKE NECESSARY PATROLS AFTER DISENGAGEMENT, AND TO
PROTECT CIVILIANS."

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By RA NARA Date 11-07-04

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AIRGRAM

PL 27 Biafra Nigeria

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HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : Department of State

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INFO : Accra, Addis Ababa, Kinshasa, Monrovia, Niamey, Yaounde, London, USUN, US Mission Geneva, Paris, Lisbon

MAR 1 3 55 PM 1968

RS/AN
ANALYSIS BRANCH

FROM : Amembassy LAGOS

DATE: February 29, 1968

SUBJECT : Ibo Administrator for Liberated Areas of Nigeria's East-Central State Appeals to Rebels to Surrender

REF :

Last week the Federal Nigerian Ministry of Information released the full text of an address by Ukpabi Asika on Feb. 15 over Radio Enugu. In essence Asika again pleaded with his fellow Ibos to recognize that their military situation is hopeless; that they have demonstrated their valor, but to continue to fight will only result in useless death and destruction; that he was in the process of establishing an effective administration in areas of Federal control, and that his fellow Ibos in "Biafra" should lay down their arms and negotiate a settlement which would allow them freely to exercise their talents within a federated Nigeria.

Although it is difficult to gauge how much effect Asika's broadcasts are having, he is unquestionably well qualified, by ethnic origin and training, to know how best to appeal to the Ibos. In the Embassy's view, Asika is probably doing as well as anyone available to the FMG could do, and as the military noose tightens around "Biafra's" Ibo heartland, it is reasonable to assume that his words will have more and more effect.

The following are highlights of Asika's address:

"I have now come back to Enugu to establish my administration on a continuous and permanent basis...at the moment most of our people are on the other side...but this is not to say that there are no people on my side. On the contrary, there has been a great change since the first time I began to make my appeals to our people to lay down their arms, to come forward in peace and to return to their country, Nigeria".

FORM 4-62 DS-323

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Contents and Classification Approved by:

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Clearances:

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In the liberated areas, "we have living peacefully over 100,000 of our people...they trusted our assurances that they would not be molested by Federal Nigerian soldiers ...they have discovered that the soldiers are here to help them".

"To help me in the administration I now have hundreds of policemen in Enugu, Nsukka and all over...all of whom speak Ibo, are from these areas, and are concerned to assure the welfare and security of our people. I have other Nigerians mostly Ibos seconded to me from the Federal public service as administrative officers, engineers and clerks". Noting he had recruited some civil servants from DP camps, Asika said he is also willing to reinstate in the civil service those who wished to return.

Turning to those fighting as "Biafran" soldiers Asika said they had shown courage, ingenuity and resourcefulness; however, they has been misled because a military victory for "Biafra" was impossible---it would require a "Biafran conquest of the whole of Nigeria...one only needs to spell it out for it to become crystal clear how madly impossible such a project is".

Asika pointed out that even if Lagos had been captured the rebels could not have held it for long. He then made the point that "the type of security control of Lagos might have given "Biafra" could only be a temporary one and one which could only have resulted, in time, in greater war and greater insecurity".

Asika reminded the Ibos that now all fighting was taking place in the former Eastern Region. "And now not only are the advances of the Federal troops steady and inevitable... at the same time the Nigerian Air Force has become a mighty terror in the towns at the rear...Aba, Owerri, Port Harcourt. They have all seen the effects of devastating bombing by MIGS and jets...the important thing surely is that the jets are here; that your leaders no longer pretend to have the capacity to withstand the jets; that the terror is at hand".

Asika said "Biafran" envoys abroad no longer say "Biafran" sovereignty is not negotiable; rather, "they talk about confederation, about Aburi agreements, about a Commonwealth peacekeeping force in the East-Central State, about all sorts of things. Of course it is encouraging that they now

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have begun to speak more about negotiations although not yet realistically".

"Every day on this radio station from Enugu we shall broadcast to you a message describing the actions you can take when you take a decision to continue to live, when you vote for life rather than death. I cannot tell you that life in the areas under my control is all milk and honey...certain essential services are not yet fully restored, the economy is not in full swing, and things are difficult for everybody but not impossible".

Asika urged the audience not to keep the new "Biafran" money but to pass it on as quickly as possible as it has no value. He pointed out that the Federal government had recovered millions of pounds of the old currency which had been flown out of the East.

Asika concluded with a plea for the Ibos to stop fighting. He said those who had already done so knew "that there is no death awaiting them at the hands of Federal troops". He said all that he and the Federal government wanted for the Ibos was "an opportunity to resume our lives as a people". All Ibos had long ago achieved the only rational justification for the war, the affirmation and validation of their manhood and valor which the whole world applauds. He concluded his appeal by saying "let us now turn our energy to the remaking of our destinies as Nigerians in peace and prosperous construction to develop our fatherland. I am ready, the 100,000 people with me are ready. Are you ready? Then stand up and be counted."

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By	MV NARA Date 10/5/05

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E	P	IO	INFO : Accra, Addis Ababa, Monrovia, Kinshasa, Niamey, Yaounde, London, USUN, Lisbon, Paris, US Mission, Geneva, Ibadan, Kaduna		DATE: February 29, 1968	
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L	ST	AIO	FROM : Amembassy LAGOS		ANALYSIS BRANCH	
3	2					
PP	1	g/pm	SUBJECT : First Hand Report from "Biafra"		REF :	
1	1					
AGR	COM	FRB	On February 23 Peter Lynch, an Australian correspondent working for UPI, called on DCM Olson to talk about his trip to "Biafra". Lynch was a member of the press party organized by a Hollywood public relations man (Goldstein) which visited "Biafra" during the first week in February. Lynch is an old West African hand and is presumed to be a competent observer. The full memorandum conversation is enclosed. Points of major interest are summarized below.		1	
INT	LAB	TAR	1. Lynch had called on General Gowon just prior to his visit to the Embassy. He found Gowon upset about the publicity generated by the British press following Commonwealth SYG Arnold Smith's trip to Lagos. Although Lynch was unaware of the details, he understood Smith had made certain proposals designed to end the civil war which Gowon did not find acceptable. Lynch was impressed by Gowon's bearing and obvious sincerity.		2. "Biafra" is in serious financial difficulty. The most worried of the rebels' top officials is Pius Okigbo, a leading economist who is well known to Lynch.	
TR	XMB	AIR				
ARMY	CIA	NAVY	3. Henry A. Warton, who piloted their plane, was being paid in "Biafran" bonds. Warton is a "slimey character with snake eyes" who had a row with Goldstein in Port Harcourt because the "Biafrans" failed to produce the money owed him. Lynch said that public morale is apparently high, but it is sustained by constant reiteration on radio and TV that "Biafrans" must either fight for their lives or be slaughtered. It was		7	
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1968 MAR 1 PM 5 42			COPYFLO-PBR		Contents and Classification Approved by: DCM:COLson	
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Lynch's impression that this so-called morale could crack very quickly if the situation deteriorated.

4. All the French mercenaries of the Faulques group had left "Biafra" as they found the going too tough and had not been paid properly. A larger group led by Robert Denard was supposed to come to "Biafra" but upon hearing of the experience of the Faulques group they cancelled out. The mercenaries now fighting with the rebels are mostly German, Italian, English and one American (of Cuban descent) who had been in the East from the beginning and had joined the "Biafran" cause.

5. Bombing by the Nigerian Air Force has done much damage in some populated areas, but has not been effective in a strictly military sense. The runway at the Port Harcourt airfield was in bad shape, not so much from bombing (as of the first week in February) as it was from general "deterioration" of the surface.

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Enclosure - Memcon as stated.

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Enclosure
Page 1
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MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILES - FEBRUARY 23, 1968

Subject: Visit of Mr. Peter Lynch, UPI Correspondent

Mr. Lynch, an Australian working for UPI and an old West African hand, made an appointment to see me this morning. It turned out that Mr. Lynch was one of the newspapermen who visited "Biafra". He had seen General Gowon just before calling on me, who was apparently not aware that Lynch had been on the "Biafra" trip.

In our conversation the following points were developed:

1. General Gowon remains upset about the publicity generated by the mediation efforts of the Commonwealth Secretariat and is taking a hard line toward the proposals made. In reply to a question about the bombing of the Mary Slessor Hospital at Uti, Gowon said the hospital was bombed because of information that it was housing rebel troops. Mr. Lynch commented that during his visit to "Biafra" he deduced that the real reason for the bombing was that the expat personnel (white males from the Hope Waddell School at Port Harcourt) had moved out to Uti, which made quite a concentration of white men in the neighborhood. The FMG apparently thought this was a mercenary headquarters and proceeded to bomb it. Lynch had no further comments on his visit to Gowon except to say that he was impressed by what a fine and obviously sincere fellow he was.

2. The trip to "Biafra" from Lisbon was made in a super-Constellation piloted by Henry A. Warton and bore the markings GFFAG, which he said is Portuguese registration. He said the plane was in poor condition. Its completely smooth tires etc. worried all of them during the trip. He said the route taken was Lisbon to Bissau, thence to Port Harcourt where the plane homed on the Port Harcourt radio beacon. He said half of the runway was lighted by electricity and the other half by kerosene torches. Once the planes unloaded their cargo, they immediately fly to Sao Tome and refuel, returning to Port Harcourt to pick up passengers for the return trip to Portugal. When asked about the state of the runway at Port Harcourt Airport, he said it was in bad shape, not so much from bombings (this was in the first week of February) as from general deterioration of the surface. One end of the runway had become corrugated. The press party left "Biafra" on February 7 (one day before the big airport raid).

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3. Mr. Lynch believes that the Rhodesian planes are no longer operating on this route because they have not been paid. He said that Warton was continuing to operate and taking "Biafran" bonds in payment. He said there were originally two DC-7's involved in the traffic. One of these was recently stolen from Lisbon by pilots owed money by "Biafra". The other is the one held in Lome. The trip to Lome was a desperate gamble by Jack Malloch to attempt to get enough money to buy three new engines which the plane needs. In addition to the DC-7's, Warton has three super-Constellations, and the "Biafrans" own one. Lynch commented that Warton was a slimy character with "snake eyes". He said that Warton had had a row with Goldstein, the Hollywood public relations man, during their visit to Port Harcourt, Warton being angered by the "Biafrans" failure to produce the money owed him. When Warton returned to Lisbon, he was in trouble with the Portuguese authorities, since he had departed Lisbon on an American passport and used a German passport on his return.

4. Mercenaries - Lynch said that all of the French mercenaries of the Faulques group had left "Biafra". They had found the going too rough and had not been properly paid. A much larger group led by Robert Denard was supposed to have arrived in "Biafra", but after the experiences of the first group, they cancelled out. Lynch said that the mercenaries now fighting with the "Biafrans" were mostly German, Italians, English, and one American who had been in "Biafra" from the beginning and had joined the "Biafran" cause. The one American uses the name of Carrera (not his real name). He is of Cuban descent according to Lynch and is with the ground forces in the Onitsha area. He has had a finger on one hand shot off. Lynch commented that Pierre Laures, the chief French procurement agent for the rebels, had recently disappeared from Lisbon and his villa was closed up. Lynch said that Laures and the other French arms merchants had also been accepting payment in "Biafran" bonds.

5. Other comments:

a) Lynch believes "Biafra" is in serious financial straits. The most worried one of the top officials was Pius Okigbo, "Biafra's" leading economist, who Lynch had known for many years.

b) The Irish Catholic Fathers in "Biafra", including Father Kennedy, an American from California, are "up to their

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necks" in the "Biafran" cause. They have recently been warned by their home base in Ireland to cease and desist from such activities.

c) When Lynch visited the Cameroons, he had an interview with President Ahidjo, who appeared to be "pro-Biafran" and who kept referring to "Biafra" as "the State of 'Biafra'". Lynch said that all of the West Cameroons is pro-"Biafran".

d) An Irish television team was scheduled to travel to "Biafra" with the press group, but at the last minute they were told by the Irish Foreign Minister not to make the trip.

e) Bombings -- Lynch said the bombing activities of the FMG while doing much damage to some populated areas, have been completely ineffectual militarily. He said that in one area the plane flew so high that they couldn't even see it from the ground and that the one bomb they had dropped fell approximately a mile from its target.

f) Lynch visited Dawes Island and the northwest tip of Bonny Island where the rebels still hold a small corner. Lynch did not land on the island, but a second motorboat did go up to a landing stage and talk with a small group of rebel troops.

g) Lynch stated that the morale of the people seems to be high but is a morale whipped up all day long on radio and television by the admonition that they must either fight for their lives or die like dogs. He said he had the feeling that this so-called morale could crack very quickly if the situation began to deteriorate.

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By	MN NARA Date 10/5/05

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

C.F. 1967-1969 POL

SYSTEMATIC REVIEW WITHDRAWAL CARD NO. 51-4

DATE: 2/29/68 MSG NO.: 7095 TYPE: TE

FROM: L2801 TO: Stat.

SUBJECT: British ~~U.S.~~ Officer Views on Hardness of FMG pos. 1.

DOCUMENT ORIGINATOR: DEPT. OF STATE: ✓ OTHER:

BASIS FOR WITHDRAWAL:

✓ CONTAINS NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION

 OTHER LAW OR REGULATION

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POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 07085 291431Z

51
ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, SAH 03, OPR 02, ACDA 16, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 03, H 02,
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AID 28, RSR 01, /158 W

R 291320Z FEB 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9563
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA 1610
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 393
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AMEMBASSY MONROVIA 727
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY 915
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 1050
USUN 250

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 7085

SUBJ: NIGERIAN COMMISSIONER EXTERNAL AFFAIRS ON PEACE-KEEPING

1. FMG COMMISSIONER EXTAFF ARIKPO, NOW ON TOUR SOUTH ASIA

PAGE 2 RUTALS 7085CC C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
EXPLAIN FMG POLICY TOWARD REBELS, QUOTED BY FMG MININFO RELEASE
AS SAYING IN DELHI FEB 26 THAT FMG HAD NOT MADE ANY
REQUEST FOR COMMONWEALTH PEACE-KEEPING FORCE. SAID
FEDERAL TROOPS AND POLICE "SUFFICIENTLY DISCIPLINED TO

UNDERTAKE NECESSARY PATROLS AFTER DISENGAGEMENT, AND TO
PROTECT CIVILIANS."

2. PUBLICLY INTRODUCING NEW ELEMENT IN OFFICIAL FMG
COMMENTS ON POSSIBLE WAYS END REBELLION, ARIKPO REPORTEDLY "DREW
DISTINCTION BETWEEN PEACE-KEEPING AND FOREIGN OBSERVER

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PAGE 02 LAGOS 07085 291431Z

UNITS WHOM REBELS MIGHT, PERHAPS, CONSIDER AS A FURTHER REASSURANCE TO THEIR SAFETY AFTER CEASE-FIRE".

3. IN ANY EVENT, "NO RPT NO DECISION TAKEN AND CERTAINLY NO RPT NO REQUEST MADE OR APPROVED BY FMG IN THIS CONNECTION".

4. COMMENT: WILL BE INTERESTING SEE IF THERE FURTHER PUBLIC REFERENCE TO "OBSERVERS" (AS DISTINCT FROM "PEACE-KEEPING UNITS) BY TOP FMG OFFICIALS.

PAGE 3 RUTALS 7085CC C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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By MN NARA Date 10/5/05

37

February 22, 1968

Honorable George Murphy
United States Senate
Washington, D. C. 20510

9/11/75 5-C-121
This document released to
public per *[Signature]* AF

Dear Senator Murphy:

I have received your communication of February 19, 1968, requesting comment on a letter from Mr. Uma O. Eleazu, the President of the Biafran Students Association of Southern California. For the most part, the letter understandably reflects the "Biafran" view of the Nigerian civil war. While I fully appreciate the sincerity of the presentation, it should be pointed out that it does not do justice to the Federal Military Government (FMG) of Nigeria.

There is not sufficient evidence to allege genocide against the FMG. Because the war is now being fought in "Biafran" territory, the Ibo civilians who live there are now suffering more than other Nigerian non-combatants. However, killings and atrocities since the civil strife began have by no means been committed by *only* one side. In addition, the FMG has repeatedly stated that its military operations are not directed against the Ibos as a people.

The Department of State is deeply concerned about the loss of life and the misery which the present conflict has brought to the Ibos and to other Nigerian peoples. In the course of our normal diplomatic activity, we have urged both sides to take every possible step to prevent indiscriminate killings. Beyond this, we have repeatedly urged a peaceful settlement of the conflict and efforts at national reconciliation. Concessions from either side which might lead to an early end of the civil war, however, have not been forthcoming.

Unfortunately, additional action to end the conflict peacefully, whether by the United States, the Commonwealth or the OAU, faces enormous problems. Basically, it is not the lack of potential mediators or outside encouragement which has hindered a negotiated settlement. It is the lack of sufficient common ground between the two sides. The Federal Military Government has firmly and repeatedly stated that it will not negotiate with "Biafra" or halt its military offensive unless the "Biafrans" renounce secession and accept the

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new twelve-state structure it has decreed for Nigeria. The "Biafrans" have just as firmly and repeatedly reiterated their refusal to give up their sovereignty or part with "Biafran" territory. Both sides state their national survival is at stake and, at least for the moment, seem unswayed by other considerations.

Thus, the immediate outlook for peace is not favorable. The United States intends to continue to follow its present policy on Nigeria: to continue to regard the FMC as the only legal government in Nigeria; to avoid any action which could be regarded as interference in Nigeria's internal affairs; to use all legal and diplomatic means to assure that no US-origin arms, over which we have any control, reach any part of Nigeria; and to continue to do everything we can to urge negotiations and a peaceful resolution to the conflict.

I hope the above information will be helpful to you. If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to call on me.

Sincerely yours,



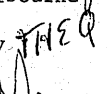
William B. Macomber, Jr.
Assistant Secretary for
Congressional Relations

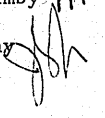

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ACTION
is assigned to

AF

United States Senate

February 19, 1968

Respectfully referred to
Office of Congressional Relations
Department of State

for such consideration as the communication
herewith submitted may warrant, and for a report
thereon, the duplicate to accompany return of
inclosure

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1968 FEB 20 AM 10 56

By direction of

ANALYSIS BRANCH

George Murphy, U. S. S.

GPO 16-71117-2

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PAGE 01 BERN 02356 281727Z

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ACTION EUR 20

INFO IO 13, AF 09, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 03, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00,

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AMEMBASSY LONDON 112
AMEMBASSY PARIS 146
AMCONSUL ZURICH 578
USMISSION GENEVA 133

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BERN 2356

REF: LAGOS 6455 (NOTAL)

1. NEUE ZUERCHER ZEITUNG REPORTED THAT DR. FRANCIS
AKANU IBIAM SPOKE AT PROTESTANT CATHEDRAL ZUERICH FOLLOWING
MAIN SERVICE FEBRUARY 25. IN SPEECH, IBIAM TRACED DEVELOP.

PAGE 2 RUFIVC 2356 C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
MENTS LEADING TO SECESSION BIAFRA AND PRESENTED WAR
AGAINST NIGERIAN FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AS ONE OF FOURTEEN
MILLION CHRISTIANS FIGHTING FOR EXISTENCE AND FREEDOM.
SAID BIAFRAN PEOPLE WANT NOTHING MORE THAN TO BE ALLOWED
DEVELOP FREELY. STATED CAUSE WOULD BE LOST UNLESS HUMANI-
TARIAN, POLITICAL AND MILITARY HELP IS RECEIVED FROM WEST.
HE SAID IT NECESSARY ABOVE ALL TO CALL WORLD'S ATTENTION
TO RUSSIAN INFLUENCE AND PRESSURE IN ORDER TO BE ABLE TO
INTRODUCE GENUINE MEDIATION INSTEAD OF FIGHT FOR EXISTENCE.

2. IBIAM STATED HE IS VISITING MOST IMPORTANT CENTERS

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PAGE 02. BERN 02356 281727Z

IN WEST TO STATE HIS CASE AND TO SEEK A SOLUTION. ZUERICH
FIRST OF IBIAM'S STOPS FOLLOWING PARTICIPATING IN EXECU-
TIVE MEETING OF WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES, GENEVA.

3. NZZ SAID IBIAM LEFT DEEP IMPRESSION. ARTICLE DID
NOT INDICATE FURTHER ITINERARY.

4. DECON 2/28/71. HAYES

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POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

SECRET 177 POSS DUPE

PAGE 01 LAGOS 07057 281750Z

53
ACTION SS 70

INFO /070 W

R 281615Z FEB 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9552
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA 1607
ADDIS ABABA 392
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA 575
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA 726
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY 913
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 1049
AMEMBASSY LONDON 2121
AMEMBASSY PARIS 795
AMEMBASSY LISBON 96

S E C R E T LAGOS 7057

LIMDIS

SUBJ: COMMONWEALTH SYG COMMENTS ON NIGERIA

REF: LAGOS 7014

1. IN COURSE BRIEF MEETING AT SOCIAL FUNCTION, COMMONWEALTH SYG SMITH TOLD EMBOFF THAT DIKE EXPECTED BE IN TOUCH WITH

PAGE TWO RUTALS 7057CC S E C R E T
HIM EITHER THROUGH GHANANIANS, OR DIRECTLY AFTER HE MEETS BIAFRAN "COURIER" IN GHANA. (THIS CONFIRMS INFO IN REFTEL).

2. SMITH ALSO CONFIRMED EARLIER REPORTS THAT BIAFRANS ARE NOW WILLING BUY HIS PACKAGE PROPOSAL FOR PEACE SETTLEMENT, BUT THAT FMG WOULD NOT RPT NOT.

3. IN ANSWER QUESTION AS TO HOW KEATLEY AS OBSERVER ABLE BREAK STORY RE PEACEKEEPING FORCE, SMITH HEATEDLY DENIED ANY LEAKS FROM HIS OFFICE AND SAID HE THOUGHT KEATLEY HAD

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PAGE 02 LAGOS 07057 281750Z

SIMPLY MADE UNWARRANTED INFERENCES FROM AN AP STORY ORIGINALLY FILED HERE. (EMBASSY HAS NO KNOWLEDGE THIS STORY.)

4. SMITH OBVIOUSLY TAKEN ABACK BY STRENGTH OF ADVERSE FEELING WITHIN FMG TO COMMONWEALTH PEACEKEEPING FORCE PROPOSAL, AND VOLUNTEERED THAT HE THOUGHT IT BEST POLICY "LIE LOW" FOR TIME BEING. HE COMMENTED THAT GOWON GAVE HIM IMPRESSION AT THEIR MEETING FEBRUARY 24 THAT FMG HAD "MOMENTUM" IN PROSECUTION OF WAR, AND WERE IN NO MOOD NEGOTIATE YET. HOWEVER, SMITH THINKS IT ENCOURAGEING THAT THERE ARE SIGNS OJUKWU MORE WILLING TALK NOW, E.G. DIKE TRAVES. SMITH SAID HE THOUGHT OJUKWU DETERMINED AND ABLE PUSH ON MILITARILY, EVEN THOUGH "VICTORIES IN THE FIELD WILL NOT RPT NOT SOLVE LONG-RANGE POLITICAL PROBLEM INTEGRATING IBOS WITHIN FEDERAL NIGERIA.

GP-1. MATHEWS

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 SERIAL 7057
 DATE Feb. 28, 1968

Screener [Signature]

(Time Received)

1968 FEB 28 PM 6 55

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Principals

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Other

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C.F. 1967-1969 POL

SYSTEMATIC REVIEW WITHDRAWAL CARD NO. 51-5

DATE: 2/28/68 MSG NO.: 7655 TYPE: TE

FROM: Legos TO: St, Pa

SUBJECT: Arnold Smith's Report

DOCUMENT ORIGINATOR: DEPT. OF STATE: ☒ OTHER: ☐

BASIS FOR WITHDRAWAL:

☒ CONTAINS NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION

☐ OTHER LAW OR REGULATION

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Pol 27 Biafra - Nigeria
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CONFIDENTIAL 136 POSS. DUPE

PAGE 01 271404Z

54 44
ACTION AF 15

INFO GPM 03, INR 07, EUR 08, RSR 01, FILE 01, /035. W

P R 271125Z FEB 68
FM USDAO/LAGOS NIGERIA
TO DIA PRIORITY
SECSTATE WASHDC
CINCSRIKE
CINCLANT
INFO CIA
DA
AMCONSUL IBADAN
AMCONSUL KADUNA
RUEPJYIFSECDEF
AMEMBASSY LONDON
DA GRNC

Defense Dept.
2/27/68

C O N F I D E N T I A L NOFORN DISSEM 0073 FEB 68. SGD HALLIGAN.
COUNTRY: NIGERIA
SUBJECT: UPDATE CURRENT FMG/EASTERN MIL SITUATION. DIA
FOR DIAO/CINCSRIKE FOR STRJ2-C: DA FOR ACSI; SECDEF FOR
OASD/ISA; LONDON FOR DAO AND POL.

1. DEFENSE ADVISOR TO U.K. HIGH COMMISSION, LAGOS (PROTECT

EXEMPTED BY E.O. 11652

PAGE 2 RUTALS 7000CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
SOURCE) SAID 27 FEB THAT LONG DORMANT ACTION ON U.K. ROYAL
NAVY(RN) TRAINING TEAM FOR NIGERIAN NAVY(INN) NOW "VERY MUCH BACK
ON TRACK" AS RESULT ARRIVAL LAGOS 26 FEB TWO MAN "NEGOTIATING TEAM"
HEADED BY COMMANDER, RN, AND INCLUDING "BUDGETARY EXPERT".

2. SUCH RN TRAINING TEAM FOR NN HAS BEEN DISCUSSED SERIOUSLY
SINCE AT LEAST 1965 AND WAS SEVERAL TIMES ON VERGE IMPLEMENTATION.
COUPS, CRISES, AND CIVIL WARS, HOWEVER, HAVE CAUSED FREQUENT
"DEFERMENT OF ACHKON" (BY HMG) ON CONTINUING REQUEST BY NN
(READ ADMIRAL J.E.A. WEY). ACCORDING SOURCE, "HMG HAS NOW GIVEN
GREEN LIGHT PROCEED, AND DETAILS SHOULD BE FIRMED UP THIS WEEK".
SOURCE SAID LATE ARRIVAL TEAM, WHICH WILL BE COMMANDER RANK.

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PAGE 02 271404Z

THREE CHIEF PETTY OFFICERS) WILL "PROBABLY BE AS OF CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES OR VERY SHORTLY THEREAFTER(SIC)".

3. MEMBERS OF TEAM WILL BE EYTC E#RN PERSONNEL; SECONDED TO NN. SOURCE SAID NN KNOWS IT WILL HAVE TO PAY MORE FOR RN PERSONNEL THAN IT DOES FOR SECONDED INDIAN NAVY OFFICERS, BUT JOE WEY WANTS HIGH QUALITY NN MAINTAINED AND THUS READY AND WILLING TO PAY.

PAGE 3 RUTALS 7000CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
PRICE". SOURCE SAID SECONDMENT OF RN OFFICERS WOULD NOT EFFECT STATUS SECONDED INDIAN NAVY OFFICERS AS NN WOULD CONTINUE KEEP APPROX FOUR INDIAN NAVY OFFICERS ON SECONDMENT AS REGULAR PROCEDURE. NN WILL ALSO KEEP HIS TWO U.K. CONTRACT OFFICERS- STAVE AND COOK- BOTH OF WHOM HAVE BEEN MANY YEAR WITH NN.
GP-3.

NOTE: #AS RECEIVED.

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PAGE 01 KADUNA 00783 272005Z

81

ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 03, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAF 00,

NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SAH 03, RSR 01,

AID 28, PC 04, /144 W

R 271450Z FEB 68
FM AMCONSUL KADUNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 663
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS 1377
AMEMBASSY LONDON 296
AMCONSUL IBADAN 384

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KADUNA 783

REF LAGOS 6982 - POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

SUBJECT: NORTHERN GOVERNORS ECHO HARD LINE ON REBELLION

1. ACCORDING DAILY TIMES GOVERNOR J.D. GOMWALK, BENUE-PLATEAU PROVINCE, ON FEBRUARY 24 WARNED FOREIGNERS NOT TO SYMPATHIZE WITH REBELS BUT RATHER TO URGE THEM RENOUNCE SECESSION AND ACCEPT NEW STRUCTURE OF FEDERAL REPUBLIC.

PAGE 2 RUTAKA 783KK C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

2. SPEAKING IN KANO FEBRUARY 23, GOVERNOR BAKO, KANO STATE, IN WELCOME ADDRESS TO RIVERS STATE GOVERNOR SAID "THERE CAN BE NO QUESTION OF NEGOTIATING CEASE FIRE WITH REBELS NOW. IF THEY ARE INTERESTED IN PEACE THEY MUST SURRENDER TO GALLANT FEDERAL TROOPS AND ACCEPT FEDERAL GOVERNMENTS PEACE PLAN FOR ENDING WAR."
DECON 2/27/72

STOES.

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POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

Department of State **TELEGRAM**

SECRET 356 POSS DUPE

PAGE 01 LAGOS 07019 271711Z

53
ACTION SS 70

INFO /070 W

R 271600Z FEB 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9539
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON 2119
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA 52
CINCSRIKE CINCPACSA
DIA

S E C R E T LAGOS 7019

LIMDIS

SUBJ: COMMONWEALTH SYG ARNOLD SMITH'S TALK WITH GOWON

1. COUNSELOR CANADIAN HICOM (ELLIOTT) TOLD POL COUNSELOR TODAY ABOUT ARNOLD SMITH'S TALK WITH GOWON FEB. 24. SOURCE OF INFO WAS GERALD HENSLEY, A NEW ZEALANDER WHO IS ASSISTANT TO ARNOLD SMITH AND ATTENDED MEETING. NIGERIANS PRESENT WITH GOWON WERE AYIDA, PERMSEC OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND

PAGE 2 RUTALS 7019CC S E C R E T
EJUEYITCHIE, SECRETARY TO FMG.

2. HENSLEY SAID MEETING LASTED LONG TIME, BUT NOTHING OF CONSEQUENCE DEVELOPED. HIS PRINCIPAL IMPRESSION WAS THAT FMG POSITION ON PEACE TERMS FOR REBELS HAS HARDENED CONSIDERABLY SINCE PREVIOUS VISIT BY ARNOLD SMITH EARLIER THIS MONTH. HE THOUGHT IT OF SOME SIGNIFICANCE THAT GENERAL GOWON TOOK DELIBERATELY TOUGH LINE IN FRONT OTHER NIGERIANS IN MEETING. GOWON SEEMED TO FEEL IT NECESSARY TO JUSTIFY HIMSELF AND PROVE TO OTHER LEADING MEMBERS FMG THAT HE IS NOT COMPROMISING. COMMENT: GOWON'S POSITION PROBABLY REFLECTS NOT ONLY STRONG STATEMENTS MADE IN NIGERIAN PRESS AGAINST MAKING CONCESSIONS TO REBELS BUT ALSO, AND MORE IMPORTANTLY, PRESSURE EVIDENTLY PUT ON HIM.

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PAGE 02 LAGOS 07019 271711Z

BY DIVISIONAL COMMANDERS OF NIGERIAN ARMY. AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED, THESE FIELD COMMANDERS ARE IN NO MOOD TO TOLERATE CONCESSIONS TO OJUKWU WHILE THEY ARE FIGHTING BITTER BATTLES WITH REBEL FORCES.

3. ACCORDING HENSLEY, COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT DOES NOT

PAGE 3 RUTALS 7019CC S E C R E T
HAVE ANY NEW IDEAS OR PROPOSALS TO PRESENT TO FMG. THEY ARE WAITING FOR ASSURANCES FROM BIAFRAN REPS THAT THEY ARE WILLING TO TALK PEACE TERMS WITHOUT ANY PRE-CONDITIONS. ALTHOUGH THEY HAVE NOT YET RECEIVED SUCH ASSURANCES, HENSLEY EXPECTS ARNOLD SMITH WILL CONTINUE TALKING WITH FMG LEADERS AS MUCH AS CIRCUMSTANCES PERMIT DURING COMMONWEALTH EDUCATION CONFERENCE IN EFFORT KEEP LINES OF COMMUNICATION OPEN IN CASE BIAFRANS WILLING MAKE MEANINGFUL PROPOSALS.

4. IN THIS CONNECTION, GHANAIAN COUNSELOR ODUM (PROTECT SOURCE) TOLD EMBOFF TODAY THAT ANKRAH HAS BEEN IN TOUCH WITH DIKE WHO IS EXPECTED ARRIVE IN ACCRA "SHORTLY" TO CONVEY "MESSAGE FROM OJUKWU" TO ANKRAH. GHANAIAN SAID THIS "VERY CONFIDENTIAL" AND ANY PREMATURE PUBLICITY COULD CAUSE EITHER REBELS OR FMG TO SHY AWAY FROM THIS TENTATIVE, LONG-DISTANCE EXCHANGE, WHICH CURRENTLY FILTERED THROUGH THIRD PARTIES. SOURCE INDICATED DIKE-ANKRAH TALKS WERE SEPARATE FROM ANY COMMONWEALTH EFFORTS, BUT IT NOT IMPOSSIBLE THAT GHANAIS KEEPING SMITH AND ADU INFORMED ON CONTINUING BASIS-PERHAPS WITH DIKE'S AGREEMENT. IN THIS CONNECTION, SEE LAGOS 6976.

GPI MATHEWS

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OTHER AGENCIES

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Other

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SECRET 427 POSS DUPE

PAGE 01 LAGOS 07014 271822Z

53-40
ACTION SS 70

INFO CCO 00,1070 W

R 271500Z FEB 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9526
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON 2117
CINCSRIKE CINCPACSA
DIA

SECRET 7014

LIMDIS

NOFORN

REF: LAGOS 6976

1. BRITISH HC RECEIVED TELEGRAM FROM CO DATED FEB. 26 WHICH
ASKED THAT FOLLOWING MESSAGE BE PASSED PERSONALLY TO ARNOLD
SMITH, SYG OF COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT, FROM ADU IN LONDON.

2. "DIKE INFORMED ME TODAY THE EXPECTED COURIER HAS NOT YET

PAGE 2 RUTALS 7014CC SECRET
ARRIVED. IT IS DIFFICULT TO EXTRACT FROM HIM WHETHER NON-
ARRIVAL IS DUE TO COMMUNICATION DIFFICULTIES WHICH I BELIEVE
REAL OR TO REAPPRAISAL OF POSITION OF OTHER SIDE.

3. "'GUARDIAN' ON SATURDAY CARRIED REPORT DATED LINED
LAGOS 23 FEBRUARY UNDER HEADLINE 'PEACE HOPES DASHED' AND
QUOTING GOWON AS SAYING THAT IT WAS UP TO FEDERAL GOVERNMENT
TO INVITE ANY COMMONWEALTH FORCE AND THEY HAD NO PLANS TO DO
SO. HE STILL HOPED THE WAR WOULD REACH DECISIVE STAGE BY
31 MARCH, AND DISMISSED AS 'PROPAGANDA PLOY' REPORTS THAT
OJUKWU WAS READY TO TALK PEACE.

4. "NO SUBSTANTIVE COMMENT IN OTHER WEEKEND PRESS. FINANCIAL

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PAGE 02 LAGOS 07014 271822Z

TIMES TODAY REPORTS YOU AS REFUSING TO DISCLOSE SUBJECT OF
YOUR DISCUSSION WITH GOWON ON FRIDAY."

GPI MATHEWS

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26 Feb 68 21 35z

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Origin ACTION: Amembassy LAGOS

Info INFO: Amembassy LONDON
GENEVA

STATE:

SUBJ: ICRC Activities in Nigeria

REF: Lagos 6951

Dept concerned increasingly negative response of FMG to humanitarian concerns and efforts of non-political agencies and Nigerian Red Cross. such as ICRC/ Would appreciate Embassy review plans and activities such organizations (particularly ICRC) on both sides Nigerian conflict during past months and Embassy's assessment of ways encourage FMG recognition long term desirability of cooperation with ICRC and other agencies who seek only protect non-combattants and mitigate personal tragedy of war. END

GP-3

RUSK

Drafted by: L:L/AF:CHGustafson:nmc:2/26/68

Tel. Ext. 2887

Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by:

L/AF - Charles Runyon

Clearances:

AF/AFW - Mr. Smith

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PET 103 BIAFRA
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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 03, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10,

P 04, RSC 01, SC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SAH 03, AID 28, RSR 01, 127 W

R 261515Z FEB 68
FM AMCONSUL KADUNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 657
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS 1372
AMCONSUL IBADAN 381
AMEMBASSY LONDON 293

UNCLAS KADUNA 775

1. RIVERS STATE GOVERNOR DIETE-SPIFF CONTINUES BE ENTHUSIASTICALLY RECEIVED IN TOUR OF NORTHERN STATES: (KADUNA, ZARIA, KANO, SOKOTO, JOS) WHERE HE CONTINUES TO HAMMER AT THEM THAT "RIVERS STATE HAS COME TO STAY AND WILL CONTINUE RELENTLESSLY PLAY HER FULL ROLE WITHIN FRAMEWORK FRA". IN SAME SPEECH, "NEW NIGERIAN" REPORTED HE DECLARED FEBRUARY 21 "THERE WILL BE NO NIGERIA WITHOUT THE RIVERS STATE, AND THERE IS NO POWER ON EARTH WHICH CAN ALTER INSTRUMENT ESTABLISHING STATES IN NIGERIA."

2. IN SPEECH IN ZAR A PREVIOUS DAY, DIETE-SPIFF

PAGE 2 RUDSLK 775KK UNCLAS
REFERRED AGAIN TO ALLEGED ATTEMPT BY OJUKWU SELL OIL OF RIVERS STATE TO FRENCH AND WARNED "RIVERS PEOPLE IN PARTICULAR AND FEDERATION AS A WHOLE" COULD NOT TOLERATE "WICKED ATTEMPT BARGAIN AWAY MINERAL RESOURCES OF COUNTRY." STOKES.

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23

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ACTION AF 15

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P 04, RSC 01, SC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, AID 28, IGA 02, ACDA 16,

IO 13, SAH 03, RSR 01, 158 W

R 261725Z FEB 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9511
INFO AMEMBASSY ACERA 1602
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 390
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA 566
AMEMBASSY LONDON 2112
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA 723
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY 909
AMEMBASSY PARIS 793
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 1045
USUN NEW YORK 247
AMCONSUL IBADAN 164
AMCONSUL KADUNA 2200

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 6982

PAGE 2 RUTALS 6982CC O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

SUBJECT: COMMONWEALTH SYG DENIES PRESS SPECULATION

REF: LAGOS 6752, 6792, 6716 - POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

1) COMMONWEALTH SYG SMITH RETURNED TO LAGOS FOR COMMONWEALTH EDUCATION CONFERENCE FEB. 23. HE HELD PRESS CONFERENCE FEB. 25, IN WHICH HE REFUTED ALL PAST SPECULATIONS IN PRESS REGARDING FORMATION COMMONWEALTH "PEACEKEEPING FORCE." SMITH SPECIFICALLY DENIED THAT ANY OF THE STORIES ORIGINATED WITH HIM OR IN HIS OFFICE. SMITH ALSO SAID HE HAD "CONFIDENTIAL DISCUSSIONS"

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DURING FEB. 24 LUNCHEON WITH HEAD FMG GOWON.

2) IN SEPARATE BUT RELATED DEVELOPMENT, TRANSPORT COMMISSIONER TARKA MADE SPEECH IN NOROF FFEB. 22 IN WHICH HE REPORTEDLY SAID NIGERIAN ARMED FORCES WOULD USE ALL RESOURCES AT THEIR COMMAND TO RESIST ANY ATTEMPT TO GET COMMONWEALTH TROOPS TO POLICE A CEASE-FIRE. HE QUOTED AS SAYING, "THIS IS OUR OWN INTERNAL AFFAIR...NIGERIA SHOULD BE LEFT ALONE TO SOLVE HER INTERNAL PROBLEMS BY HERSELF." (COMMENT. TARKA'S ATTITUDE CONSISTENT WITH INCREASINGLY HARD-LINE NOTED RECENT LAGOS REPORTING.)

DECON 2/26/69 MATHEWS

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POL 15-1 NIGERIA
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RE POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

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PAGE 01 KADUNA 00777 270820Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, GPM 03, L 03, H 02, CIAE 00, DODE 00, INR 07, NSAE 00, P 04,

RSC 01, USIA 12, SAH 03, AID 28, RSR 01, /094 W

R 261620Z FEB 68
FM AMCONSUL KADUNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 659
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS 1373
AMCONSUL IBADAN 382
AMEMBASSY LONDON 294

UNCLAS KADUNA 777

SUBJECT: TARKA CRITICIZES OLD POLITICIANS

1. FEDERAL TRANSPORT COMMISSIONER JOSEPH TARKA ON VISIT TO ZARIA SPOKE TO STUDENTS AT AHMADU BELLO UNIVERSITY FEB 22 ON THEME NIGERIAN UNITY.

2. TARKA REPORTEDLY (DAILY TIMES AND NEW NIGERIAN FEBRUARY 24) CONDEMNED MEETINGS OF NIGERIAN LEADERS OF THOUGHT AND CALLED ON FMG TO BAN FUTURE SUCH MEETINGS, BLAMING OLD POLITICIANS ("ALL OF US WERE GUILTY") FOR 1966 ARMY TAKEOVER. TARKA REPORTEDLY SAID LEADERS OF THOUGHT (IE. OLD POLITICIANS)

PAGE 2 PUDSLK 777KK UNCLAS
HAD FAILED NIGERIA AND THAT FORMER POLITICIANS HAD USED MEETINGS TO REBUILD THEIR TRIBAL EMPIRES.

3. TARKA ALSO REPORTED TO HAVE SAID NIGERIA WOULD RESIST ANY ATTEMPT TO GET COMMONWEALTH TROOPS TO POLICE A CEASE FIRE AND THAT THE AR HAD SHOWN NIGERIA WHICH COUNTRIES WERE TRULY HER FRIENDS AND THAT NIGERIA WOULD KNOW WHERE TO PITCH HER TENT IN FUTURE. STOKES

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(3)

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Authority VMD 950503
By MVA Date 10/5/05

ORIGIN/ACTION

AF-5	REP	AF
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34		NSC

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AIRGRAM

POL 27 BIAFRA NIGERIA

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A-395

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HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : Department of State

INFO : LAGOS, LONDON

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 27 8 44 AM 1968

FROM : Amembassy NAIROBI

RS/AN
ANALYSIS BRANCH
DATE: February 25, 1968

SUBJECT : Nigerian High Commission on
Arnold SMITH Mission to Nigeria

REF :

Since the eruption of the Civil War in Nigeria last year, the Federal Government's High Commissioner in Nairobi, Mr. Leslie O. HARRIMAN, has entered into frequent debate in and with the local press as the result of various and sundry news reports on events in Nigeria. He has been particularly upset at the publicity given in the East African press from time to time to statements by Mr. Austin OKWU, a representative of Biafra located in Dar-es-Salaam. Moreover, he has tended to overreact to what he regards as unjustifiable support for Biafra on the part of the press and of the public at large. Mr. Harriman has had no occasion to criticize the Kenyan Government directly, since, except for occasionally deploring the continued fighting in Nigeria, the Government has had little to say on the subject of Nigeria.

Mr. Harriman's latest sally is a press release of February 16 (enclosed) branding as "mere speculation and mischievous wishful thinking" a report allegedly carried by the BBC and "some foreign press" to the effect that Commonwealth Secretary-General Arnold SMITH had gone to Nigeria at the invitation of Major General GOWON to mediate the Nigerian Civil War.

att.
Enclosure:
Press Release (Unclassified)

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FORM 4-62 DS-323

☐ In ☐ Out

Drafted by: POL:RAJones:WBE

2/23/68

Contents and Classification Approved by:

DCM:WBCooteWBE

Clearances:

0037

DECLASSIFIED
Authority: VND 959503
By: MN NARA Date: 10/5/05

Page 1 of 1
Enclosure No. 1
Nairobi's **A-395**

UNCLASSIFIED

Nigeria High Commission,
P. O. Box 30516,
Nairobi, Kenya.

PRESS RELEASE

Report by the B.B.C. and some foreign press that the Commonwealth Secretary-General, Mr. Arnold Smith, went to Nigeria to mediate in the Nigerian crisis on the invitation of the Head of State, Major General Yakubu Gowon, has been emphatically denied by the Federal Military Government, which also stated that Mr. Arnold Smith's visit to Nigeria was in connection with the Commonwealth Education Conference due to begin in Lagos on 26th February, 1968.

This false report should therefore be regarded as mere speculation and mischievous wishful thinking of its originators.

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Authority	VND 950503
By	MV NARA Date 10/5/05

ACTION		
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1		
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AGR	COM	FRS
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ARMY	CIA	NAVY
3	20	5
OSD	USIA	NSA
34	10	3
		NSC
		6

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AIRGRAM

PL27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

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NO.

TO : Department of State
 INFO : London, Ibadan, Kaduna
 FROM : Amembassy Lagos
 SUBJECT : Nigerian Government Views on Commonwealth Secretariat Peace Efforts
 REF : Lagos 6752

RECEIVED
 DEPARTMENT OF STATE

FEB 26 11 49 AM 1968

RS/AN
 ANALYSIS BRANCH

DATE: February 25, 1968

Transmitted with this airgram is the text of the "verbatim report" of the February 16, 1968 speech of the Nigerian Commissioner of External Affairs to the Chiefs of Mission about the "supposed" negotiations between the FMG and Mr. Arnold Smith, Secretary General of the Commonwealth Secretariat.

The substance of the speech was reported in the reference telegram. The enclosed mimeographed account of what Dr. Arikpo said was produced some time later and distributed to diplomatic missions in Lagos by the Ministry of External Affairs.

Enclosure: as stated

MATHEWS

Decontrolled on February 23, 1969

1968 FEB 27 AM 8 55

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FORM 4-62 DS-323

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Drafted by:

POL:AEWellons:jh 2/23/68

Contents and Classification Approved By:

POL:AEWellons

Clearances:

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Authority	VND 954/503
By	MN NARA Date 10/3/05

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Enclosure
Page 1
Lagos A-450

VERBATIM REPORT OF THE SPEECH GIVEN
BY COMMISSIONER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS,
DR. OKOI ARIKPO, TO REPRESENTATIVES
OF ALL FOREIGN MISSIONS IN NIGERIA ON
FRIDAY, 16TH FEBRUARY, 1968

Your Excellencies, I want to start by apologizing for bringing you into this very uncomfortable room at such short notice.

I have instructions from the Commander-in-Chief to have a very brief talk with you. In the last few days, some foreign newspapers, in particular British papers, have put out reports of what was supposed to have been negotiations between the Federal Military Government and Mr. Arnold Smith, the Secretary-General of the Commonwealth Secretariat. These reports have caused some embarrassment to some Governments and in particular to the Federal Military Government. The Commander-in-Chief feels that he has a duty to take you into confidence as the accredited Representatives of your respective Governments.

He has asked me to let you know that, as some of you already know, it is quite true that Mr. Arnold Smith visited Lagos from the 9th of February to the morning of the 11th but that Mr. Smith came to Lagos at his own request. He was not invited to Lagos by the Commander-in-Chief or by the Federal Military Government. It is also true that Mr. Smith held very important discussions on the Nigerian situation. However, the reports which subsequently appeared in foreign papers and some of the information media like radio and television reports were completely false.

The truth is that on a number of occasions in the last four months, Mr. Arnold Smith had made approaches to representatives of the Federal Military Government as well as suggestions about the possibility of a negotiated settlement of the hostilities between the Federal Military Government and the rebels. On this occasion, Mr. Smith thought that he had what he considered to be important information to bring to the notice of the Federal Government and so he requested to be allowed to come to Lagos to confer with the Commander-in-Chief.

He made a report of his discussions with the representatives of the rebel leaders and suggested that this might be the basis for a negotiated settlement. The proposals made by Mr. Smith were not acceptable to the Federal Military Government and the Commander-in-Chief took the opportunity to restate what he has stated time and again - that the only conditions for ending the present military operations are that the rebels give up secession whether by actual broadcast or by action, that they accept the Federal Union based on the newly-created twelve States and that after these two basic conditions were accepted, he was prepared to order the cessation of hostilities and to arrange for a Constitutional Conference to agree on the division of powers between the Federal Government and the States.

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Authority	VND 959503
By	MM/ARA
Date	10/5/03

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Enclosure
Page 2
Lagos A-450

The question of physical security of the rebel leaders and Ibos was raised and the Commander-in-Chief gave an undertaking that if these two basic conditions were accepted, he would be prepared to work out a machinery for ensuring the physical safety of Ibos wherever they may be.

I have been asked to say very very categorically that there were no discussions whatsoever about the possibility of bringing Commonwealth troops to police any part of this country and I have been asked to express regrets to the representatives of those Commonwealth Governments who have been mentioned by name. At no time did the Commander-in-Chief go into any discussions about admitting foreign troops into Nigeria, least of all about inviting Indian, Pakistani and Malaysian troops into Nigeria and I have been asked to say that these reports were completely false. The Commander-in-Chief expresses his regrets for any embarrassment that the Governments of India, Pakistan and Malaysia might have felt as a result of these reports.

That is all I have been asked to report to you and if any of Your Excellencies wants to ask any question to clarify any point in this statement, I should be glad to answer.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

The Italian Ambassador, H.E. Dr. Vittoriano Manfredi, enquired whether the statement should be treated as a confidential communication.

Answer: It is a confidential communication because the Commander-in-Chief feels that you are entitled to discuss it in confidence and that many of you have felt embarrassed about these speculations.

Italian Ambassador: Thank you.

The Tchad Ambassador, H.E. Mr. Baba Hassane, requested a brief resume in French. The Commissioner did this with Mrs. Oyairo.

The Tchad Ambassador then asked for specific information as to where the reports referred to are circulating.

Answer by the Commissioner: The 'Manchester Guardian', the 'London Times'. It ~~is~~ also appeared in New York papers and was broadcast on the B.B.C. and some T.V. and radio networks in the U.S.

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Authority	VND 959503
By	MV NARA Date 10/5/05

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POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
AR SOC 3 RED CROSS
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 603

PAGE 01 LAGOS 06951 241450Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, SCS 04, SCA 02, AID 28, ACDA 16, CIAE 00, CODE 00, GPM 03,
H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SC 01, SP 02, SS 20,
USIA 12, RSR 01, SR 01, ORM 03, /163 W

R 241250Z FEB 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9495
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA 1601
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 388
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA 565
AMEMBASSY LISBON 92
AMEMBASSY LONDON 2107
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA 722
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY 908
AMEMBASSY PARIS 791
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 1044
USMISSION GENEVA 117
USUN NEWYORK 245

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 6951

SUBJ: INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS PROTESTS FMG BOMBING

PAGE 2 RUTALS 6951CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
(1) EMBOFF SHOWN MESSAGE FROM ICRC HEADQUARTERS GENEVA TO
PIERROZ, NEW ICRC REP HERE. MESSAGE QUOTED TELEX FROM
JAGGI, LONG-TIME RED CROSS REP IN "BIAFRA" AS SAYING HE HAD
PERSONALLY INSPECTED AFTERMATH FMG BOMBING RAID ON AWKA
FEBRUARY 17. JAGG SAID ATTACK KILLED OVER 100 AND ABOUT
400 MORE INJURED AS RESULT WHAT HE DESCRIBED AS "INCENDIARY"

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By MVA Date 10/5/05



Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LAGOS 06951 241450Z

OR "PERHAPS NAPALM" EXPLOSIVES. HE ASKED ICRC IN STRNGEST TERMS HAVE THEIR REP HERE PROTEST TO FMG. GENEVA MESSAGE DIRECTED PIERROZ MAKE STRONG REPRESENTATIONS 61 "DEMARCHE PRESSANTE" TO CHIEF NIGERIAN AIR FORCE AND PRESIDENT NIGERIAN RED CROSS (WHO ALSO CHIEF JUSTICE). PIERROZ TRIED CARRY OUT INSTRUCTIONS BUT SO FAR HAS SEEN ONLY CHIEF JUSTICE, WHO HAS PROMISED INTERCEDE WITH FMG. PIERROZ WAS APPOINTMENT MONDAY TO GIVE WRITTEN PROTEST TO CHIEF OF STAFF, SUPREME HEADQUARTERS, FOR TRANSMISSION TO GOWON. PRESS HAS WIND OF STORY BASED ON AFP AND REUTERS STORIES, PROBABLY ORIGINATING IN GENEVA, BUT SO FAR THEY HAVE NOT PICKED UP NAPALM ANGLE, WHICH COULD PROVE HIGHLY EMBARRASSING TO FMG, GIVEN PREVIOUS SPECULATION THEY PLANNING USE IT (DATT 6267 NOTAL) IN RETALIATION BOMBING OF NIGERIAN

PAGE 3 RUTALS 6951CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
NAVAL VESSEL (DATPW 4686, 4743, 4770, NOTAL).

2. IT ALSO UNFORTUNATE FROM FMG VIEWPOINT THAT AFP PLAYING STORY IN SUCH WAY AS LINK "TERROR BOMBING OF CIVILIANS" WITH SPEECH MADE BY FEDERAL ADMINISTRATOR ASIKA FROM ENUGU, IN WHICH HE SAID RAIDS WERE REASON FOR RENOUNCING SECESSION.

3. MINISTER INFO ENAHORO AT PRESS CONFERENCE TODAY DENIED FMG HAD RECEIVED ANY PROTEST FROM ICRC, WHICH TECHNICALLY CORRECT.

4. COMMENT. DOUBT THAT WE HAVE HEARD THE END OF THIS ONE. ICRC PROTEST, COUPLED WITH RESOLUTION PASSED BY WORLD COUNCIL CHURCHES APPEALING FMG OBSERVE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS SO THAT ICRC WORK "CAN GO FORWARD ON BOTH SIDES" LIKELY INCREASE HARD-NOSED ATTITUDE ON PART OF FMG. RED CROSS OFFICIALS HERE FORESEES SOME DIFFICULTIES FOR THEM IN CARDAING OUT THEIR WORK.

GP3 MATHEWS

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By	MV NARA Date 10/5/05



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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 01 KADUNA 00766 211237Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, AID 28, ACDA 16, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 03, H 02, INR 07,
LI 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, RSR 01,
E 15, COM 08, INT 06, / 182 W

R 211120Z FEB 68
FM AMCONSUL KADUNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 651
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS 1367
AMEMBASSY LONDON 292
AMCONSUL IBADAN 380

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KADUNA 766

REF LAGOS 6843 - POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

SUBJECT: PERSERVATION OF RIVERS STATE BOUNDARIES

1. IN LIGHT REFTEL THERE EVERY REASON TO PRESUME THAT
RIVERS MILGOV DIETE-SPIFF IS MAKING STRONG BID IN PRIVATE
FOR NORTHERN STATES GOVERNORS SUPPORT OF RIVERS EFFORT TO
PRESERVE PRESENT RIVERS STATE INCLUDING PORT HARCOURT.

PAGE 2 RUTAKA 766KK C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
THIS COULD, IN FACT, BE MAJOR REASON FOR HIS PRESENT TOUR.

2. RIVERS PEOPLE HAVE SYMPATHY OF NORTHERNERS AS ETHNIC
GROUP WHICH HAS SUFFERED UNDER IBO DOMINATION. THIS IN
NORTHERN EYES SUPPORTS AND JUSTIFIES PAST PROTESTATIONS OF
NORTHERN PEOPLE THAT IBOS HAVE POSED MAJOR THREAT OF TRIBAL

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PAGE 02 KADUNA 00766 211237Z

DOMINATION IN NIGERIA. DIETE-SPIFF CAN EXPECT RECEIVE SYMPATHETIC HEARING FROM ALL NORTHERN GOVERNORS AND PROBABLY SUPPORT FROM MOST IN PRESERVING PRESENT RIVERS STATE DELINEATION.

3. ACCORDING NEW NIGERIAN FEBRUARY 21, DIETE-SPIFF IN SPEECH IN ZARIA SAID HE AWARE OF HERCULEAN TASK AHEAD BUT IS OPTIMISTIC OF FUTURE SUCCESS "BECAUSE OF THE GOOD WILL OF THE NORTHERN STATES." HE ALSO REPORTED TO HAVE EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR EFFORTS OF ALL GOVERNMENTS OF FEDERATION IN PROMOTING UNDERSTANDING AND COOPERATION BETWEEN VARIOUS ETHNIC GROUPS. MILGOV KYARI OF NORTH-CENTRAL STATE WELCOMED FREQUENT INTER-STATE VISITS. HE REPORTEDLY ADDED THAT EITHER REBELS ACCEPT

PAGE 3 RUTAKA 766KK C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
PMG TERMS OR MILITARY OPERATIONS WILL CONTINUE UNTIL
REBELLION CRUSHED.
DECON 2/21/73

STOKES.

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By	MVA
Date	10/5/05



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POL 7 NIGERIA

TELEGRAM

TR POL 27 NIGERIA-NIGERIA

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 06864 211417Z

42
ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, EA 10, NEA 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 03, H 02, INR 07, L 03,
NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, AID 28,
PC 15, SAH 03, RSR 01, 165 W

R 211100Z FEB 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9455
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA 1593
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 387
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR 8
AMEMBASSY LONDON 2103
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI 23
AMEMBASSY RAWALPINDI 4
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE 10

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 6864

SUBJ: NIGERIAN COMMISSIONER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS TO ASIA

REF: LAGOS 6716 AND 6717

pol 27 Confusion Nigeria

PAGE 2 RUTALS 6864CC C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
1. COMMISSIONER (READ MINISTER) EXTERNAL AFFAIRS ARIKPO
TOLD AMBASSADOR HE NOT RPT NOT RETURNING LAGOS AFTER OAU
MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE, BUT GOING DIRECTLY ON HIS SCHED.
ULED VISITS TO INDIA, PAKISTAN, MALAYSIA AND SINGAPORE. EXPECTS
RETURN NIGERIA FIRST WEEK MARCH.

2. IN SPEECH FEB. 14 ARIKPO DENIED COMMONWEALTH "PEACE

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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 06843 211149Z

11
ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 03, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00,

NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SAH 03, RSR 01,

AID 28, PC 04, /144 W

R 201500Z FEB 68 ZFD
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9444
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON 2101
AMCONSUL IBADAN 1643
AMCONSUL KADUNA 2188

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SUBJ: RIVERS STATE DETERMINATION TO KEEP PORT HARCOURT

1. OFFICIALS OF RIVERS STATE GOVT. IN LAGOS HAVE TOLD EM-BOFFS THAT THEY ARE FEARFUL THAT FMG MIGHT BE PERSUADED TO GIVE PORT HARCOURT AND POSSIBLY SOME OIL PRODUCING AREAS IN OTHER PARTS OF RIVERS STATE TO EAST CENTRAL STATE AS PART OF OVERALL SETTLEMENT OF WAR.

2. WITHIN LAST WEEK TWO UNOFFICIAL GROUPS FROM RIVERS STATE

PAGE 2 RUTALS 6843CC C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
HAVE ISSUED PUBLIC STATEMENTS WHICH ALSO REFLECT THIS FEAR.
RIVERS STATE STUDY GROUP, ORGANIZATION CONSISTING OF ABOUT FIFTEEN PERSONS, LARGELY FACULTY MEMBERS FROM UNIVERSITY OF LAGOS, ISSUED STATEMENT FEBRUARY 16 SAYING "RIVERS PEOPLE WILL ONLY ACCEPT SOLUTION BASED ON TERMS"

11
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Jagos 6843
2-20-68

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By MVA Date 10/5/05



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PAGE 02 LAGOS 06843 211149Z

ALREADY STIPULATED BY FMG, NAMELY RENUNCIATION OF SECESSION AND ACCEPTANCE OF NEW STRUCTURE OF NIGERIAN FEDERATION BASED ON TWELVE STATES ALREADY CREATED. RIVERS STATE STUDENTS' UNION IN BRITAIN, ACCORDING NIGERIAN NEWS ACCOUNTS OF FEB. 17 HAS EXPRESSED "GRAVE CONCERN AT OVERTURES BEING MADE IN CERTAIN QUARTERS FOR NEGOTIATIONS ON CURRENT CIVIL WAR" AND URGED GOWON "NOT TO COMPROMISE... ESPECIALLY THE STATUS OF RIVERS STATE AS AT PRESENT CONSTITUTED".

3. RIVERS STATE GOVERNOR, IN TOUR OF NORTH, HAS MADE UNQUALIFIED PRONOUNCEMENT THAT HIS HEADQUARTERS WILL BE IN PORT HARCOURT ON MARCH (KADUNA'S 756). RASH STATEMENT SEEMS ANOTHER REFLECTION OF INTENSITY OF FEELING RIVERS STATE PEOPLE CONCERNING PORT HARCOURT AND OF THEIR DESIRE TO EMPHASIZE FACT THAT IT BELONGS TO THEM.

PAGE 3 RUTALS 6843CC C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

EXEMPT.

MATHEWS

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By	MW NARA Date 10/5/05



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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 01 KADUNA 00760 212350Z

12
ACTION: AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, SCS 04, SCA 02, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 03, H 02, INR 07,
L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SAH 03,
AID 28, ACDA 16, PC 04, RSR 01 / 166 W

R 201415Z FEB 68 ZEL
FM AMCONSUL KADUNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 647
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS 1364
AMEMBASSY LONDON 289
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA 02
AMEMBASSY PARIS 96
AMCONSUL IDABAN 377

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KADUNA 0760
REF LAGOS 6792 / POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
POL 3 COMMONWEALTH
XR PET 10-3 BIAFRA
SUBJECT: NEW NIGERIAN EDITOR COMMENTS ON "PROSPECTS FOR
PEACE IN NIGERIA"

1. NEW NIGERIAN EDITOR ADAMU CIROMA, WHO NOW ON LEAVE

PAGE 2 RUTAKA 760KK C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
CONTRIBUTED FULL PAGE COMMENTARY FEBRUARY 17 ON ARNOLD
SMITH MISSION AND ROLE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT IN CURRENT
EFFORTS TERMINATE CIVIL WAR. REFLECTING HARD LINE NOTED
IN REFTEL, CIROMA WROTE "ONLY ERROR WHICH FMG CAN MAKE IS
EITHER TO ALLOW ITSELF TO BE GOADED BY FOREIGNERS WHO DO
NOT UNDERSTAND SITUATION OR UNDERESTIMATE REBELS WITH ALL

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PAGE 02 KADUNA 00760 212350Z

THEIR POWERFUL FOREIGN SUPPORT."

2. ACCORDING CIROMA VERSION RECENT PEACE FEELERS, REBEL ENVOYS SOUGHT ASSISTANCE COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT TO ARRANGE SURRENDER WHEN ONITSHA BESIEGED IN OCTOBER BUT LATER RENEGED WHEN ONITSHA DID NOT FALL. FOLLOWING FMG JANUARY ATTACKS REBELS AGAIN SOUGHT AID FROM SMITH WHO PROPOSED CEASE FIRE AND COMMONWEALTH FORCE. FMG REJECTED PROPOSALS BUT WOULD "DISCUSS PEACE AND OVERALL SETTLEMENT" UNDER THREE CONDITIONS (1) RENUNCIATION SECESSION (2) ACCEPTANCE NEW STATES (3) EXCLUSION OJUKWU.

3. AFTER THIS REJECTION BY FMG SMITH ASKED SEE GOWON IN BELIEF THAT GOWON "MORE REASONABLE" THAN FMG REPRESENTATIVES IN

PAGE 3 RUTAKA 760KK C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LONDON. FMG AGREED TO CONCESSIONS INCLUDING ESTABLISHMENT REVENUE ALLOCATION COMMISSION OF INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL EXPERTS, BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR "MINOR" ADJUSTMENTS AND AGREEMENT THAT NEW CONSTITUTION WOULD BE WRITTEN BY CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY OF ALL TWELVE STATES. IBOS WOULD BE GUARANTEED "FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT" AND "SECURITY OF LIFE" INCLUDING JOBS FOR THOSE WHO HAD BEEN DISPLACED. ACCORDING CIROMA "IDEA OF COMMONWEALTH FORCE FIRMLY REJECTED IN JANUARY AND DURING SMITH'S VISIT," BUT FMG WOULD AGREE TO OBSERVERS FROM INTERNATIONAL RED CORSS.

4. CIROMA OPINES THAT, IN VIEW "CONSISTENCY OF BUILDUP BY BBC," COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT ITSELF MAY HAVE LEAKED TO FOREIGN PRESS THE REPORT THAT AGREEMENTS HAD BEEN REACHED. IN CIROMA'S VIEW, COMMONWEALTH SECRETARY GENERAL PROMPTED IN THESE MOVES BY PRESSURES FROM (1) CHURCHES WHICH PAINT WAS AS MOSLEM-CHRISTIAN CONFRONTATION (2) COLLECTIVE BRITISH COMMERCIAL INTERESTS IN NIGERIA WHO SUFFER DURING WAR PERIOD SINCE EXPORTS CANNOT EXPAND AND THERE IS QUESTION OF SAFETY OF INVESTMENTS (3) COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT ITSELF WHICH

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PAGE 03 KADUNA 00760 212350Z

PAGE 4 RUTAKA 760KK C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
SEEKS SPECTACULAR SUCCESS TO "CAPTURE PUBLIC IMAGINATION."

5. CIROMA FURTHER WROTE THAT NIGERIANS "DO NOT REJOICE IN
THIS WAR," BUT ARE PREPARED CONTINUE FIGHT TO RESTORE
"PEACE AND UNITY" AND DO NOT INTEND THAT SACRIFICES MADE
"WILL BE RELAXED BEFORE ACHIEVEMENT NATIONAL OBJECTIVE."
TO EXPECT ANYTHING ELSE "OUTSIDERS" ARE "NOT THINKING ALONG
THE WAVELENGTH WITH US." REBELS MUST BECOME MORE CONSCIENCABLE
AND "START TALKING SENSE, UNITY AND PEACE" OR FMG WILL CON-
TINUE FIGHTING UNTIL OJUKSU IS ARRESTED.

6. IN ANY EVENT, CIROMA LOATH TO ADVOCATE "TOTAL MILITARY
VICTORY" IN BEST INTEREST OF NIGERIA SINCE OUTRIGHT VICTORY
FOR FMG OR OUTRIGHT DEFEAT FOR OJUKWU WOULD NOT LEAVE "HAPPY
LEGACY." WHAT IS NEEDED IS "HONORABLE PEACE."

7. COMMENT: ADAMU CIROMA IS WELL CONNECTED WITH NORTHERN
GOVERNMENT WHERE HIS COUSIN LIMAN CIROMA IS PERMSEC TO
INTERIM ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL. HE ALSO HAS MANY CONTACTS
IN LAGOS WHERE HE SERVED UNTIL LATE 1966. ARTICLE IS:

PAGE 5 RUTAKA 760K C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
ELOQUENT TESTIMONY TO FRUSTRATION NOTED HERE IN ENDING WAR
AND DEALING WITH OJUKWU WHILE WELL-MEANING OUTSIDERS CAUSE
ADDITIONAL PROBLEMS BY MOVING TOO RAPIDLY WITH TOO MUCH
FANFARE.

EXEMPT

STOKES.

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NR PET 10-3 BIAFRA

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INFO EUR 15, AID 28, SAH 03, ACDA 16, CIAE 00, GPM 03, H 02, INR 07, L 03,
NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, RSR 01,
/143: W

R 201500Z FEB 68
FM AMCONSUL KADUNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 649
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS 1366
AMCONSUL IBADAN 379
AMEMBASSY LONDON 291
RUEDPSA/CINCSRIKE/CINCEAFSA
DIA

UNCLAS KADUNA 763

REF KADUNA 756

1. RIVERS MILGOV DIETE-SPIFF IN KADUNA YESTERDAY
REPORTEDLY PUBLICLY REFERRED AGAIN TO OJUKWU DEAL
WITH FRENCH INTERESTS. NEW NIGERIAN FEBRUARY 20
REPORTS DIETE-SPIFF SAID QTE HIS GOVERNMENT AWARE
OF FACT OJUKWU WAS SIGNING AGREEMENTS WITH FRENCH
INTERESTS TO EXPLOIT OIL RESOURCES IN REBEL-HELD
AREAS OF RIVERS AND CENTRAL EASTERN STATES UNQTE.

STOKES.

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 ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, RSR 01, AID 28, PC 04, SR 01, ORM 03, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE
 GPM 03, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SC 01, SP 02
 SS 20, USIA 12, SAH 03, ACDA 16, /164 W

R 200955Z FEB 68
 FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1747
 INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS 484
 AMEMBASSY LONDON 53
 AMEMBASSY PARIS 223

C O N F I D E N T I A L YAOUNDE 1003

UPI LONDON WRITER PETER LYNCH (AUSTRALIAN CITIZEN) COMPLETED
 SEVERAL DAYS TOURING BIAFRA EARLY FEB. MADE FOLLOWING OBSERVATIONS TO
 PAO:

1. IBO POPULATIONS STRONGER THAN EVER IN OPPOSITION TO FMG.
2. SOME OPPOSITION OJUKWU EXISTS AMONG IBO OLD GUARD, BUT IF HE
 FALLS ANOTHER IBO WOULD REPLACE HIM AND THIS WOULD NOT AFFECT
 CONDUCT WAR OR PEOPLES ATTITUDE.

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PAGE TWO RUTAND 100360 C O N F I D E N T I A L
 3. IBO OPPOSITION TO FMG HAS ASSUMED QUOTE FATALIST CHARACTER
 UNQUOTE, THEME BEING QUOTE WE WILL DIE ALONE OR DIE FOR JUST CAUSE
 UNQUOTE.
 4. MILITARILY, BIAFRA STILL HOLDS PART OF BONNY AND REMAINS NEAR
 ENUGU. FMG HAS 105MM MORTARS AND ALL BIAFRA HARDWARE IS
 LIGHTER THAN THIS, PLUS NO ARMORED CARS, LIMITING OFFENSIVE
 POSSIBILITIES.
 5. BIAFRAN ARMY AND PARAMILITARY FORCES HEAVILY ARMED LIGHT

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WEAPONS. LYNCH CONTRASTED BIAFRAN ARMY WITH CONGO TROOPS, BOTH OF WHICH HE HAS SEEN FIRST HAND. SAID BIAFRANS KEEPING AMMUNITION CLIPS IN POCKET UNTIL READY TO FIRE AND FIRE IF THERE IS A TARGET, WHILE CONGO TROOPS WOULD SHOOT AT ANYTHING. SAID HE WAS WITH OJUKWU WHEN MIG FLEW OVER SO HIGH AS TO BE INVISIBLE AND DROPPED TWO BOMBS, EXPLODING FOREST OUTSIDE OF TOWN. SAID EGYPTIAN PILOTED MIGS GENERALLY FLY TOO HIGH FOR COMBAT USEFULNESS ALTHOUGH HE SAW LOW BOMBING STRAFING RAID ON MISSIONARY HOSPITAL.

PAGE THREE RUTAND 1003GQ C O N F I D E N T I A L

6. SAID FOREIGN RESERVES MAIN PROBLEM FACING BIAFRA BECAUSE OF NIGERIAN CURRENCY SWITCH. REPORTED PILOTS BEING PAID IN HARD CURRENCY BUT PLANE OWNERS ACCEPTING BIAFRAN BONDS REDEEMABLE IN 1970 FOR TRIPS, FOR WHICH THEY CHARGE ESTIMATED \$24,000 ROUND-TRIP LISBON-SAN THOME-PT. HARCOURT. ALSO STATED ARMS DEALERS ACCEPTING BIAFRAN BONDS.

7. NOTED BIAFRA HAS ADEQUATE GASOLINE, RAILROAD OPERATING PART WAY TO ENUGU, RADIO AND TELEVISION ON AIR AND LOTS OF DUCK, CHICKEN, GOAT AND VEGETABLES. SHORTAGE IMPORTED EUROPEAN GOODS DOES NOT AFFECT MOST PEOPLE.

8. REPORTED FOLLOWING EXCHANGE AHIDJO AND GOWAN DURING DECEMBER OAU MEDIATION VISIT: AHIDJO: WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF YOU COULD MEET OJUKWU? GOWON: I'DE HANG HIM FROM THE HIGHEST TREE. AHIDJO: HE WOULD BE MORE OF A MARTYR TO THE IBO THAN PATRICE LUMUMBA IS TO OTHERS. REMEMBER YOU HAVE 800,000 IBO AND I HAD 8,000 PEOPLE IN OPPOSITION, AND IT TOOK US ALMOST TEN YEARS TO END OUR PROBLEM.

PAGE FOUR RUTAND 1003GQ C O N F I D E N T I A L

GOWAN: WHAT WOULD YOU DO? AHIDJO: NEGOTIATE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. SOURCE WAS FORMER VICE PRESIDENTIAL INTERPRETER WHO ACCOMPANIED MISSION. PROTECT. PAYTON

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INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 03, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAF 00,

NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, AID 28, MC 01, GDP 01,

ACDA 16, RSR 01, SAH 03, SR 01, ORM 03, NEA 13, NIC 01, 176 W

R 201515Z FEB 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9448
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA 1591
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 386
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA 564
AMEMBASSY LISBON 90
AMEMBASSY LONDON 2102
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA 717
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY 906
AMEMBASSY PARIS 784
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 1041
US MISSION GENEVA 115
USUN 243

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 6850

SUBJ: NIGERIAN POLITICO-MILITARY SITREP

PAGE 2 RUTALS 6850CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
1. AT TIME WHEN OAU MINISTERS MEETING IN ADDIS, AND THERE
INDICATIONS GHANA'S ANKRAH MAY HAVE TALKED WITH OJUKWU ON
PHONE RE HIS OAU MANDATE (NIAMEY 1185 NOTAL), EMBASSY
BELIEVES ADDRESSEES MAY FIND BRIEF SITREP USEFUL. AS MOST
MILITARY INFO PREVIOUSLY REPORTED DATT SEPTELS, THIS PRI-
MARILY FOR OAU CONSULTATIVE MISSION POSTS.

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2. FMG ANNOUNCED FEB 19 CAPTURE STRATEGIC TOWN OF AWKA, WHICH IS 20 MILES EAST OF ONITSHA AND FAIRLY DEEP IN "BIAFRA". AWKA IS IRON-SMELTING TOWN WHERE REBELS HAVE BEEN PRODUCING MOST OF THEIR HOMEMADE ARMS AND TANKS, ACCORDING FMG ANNOUNCEMENT. DIVISION OF FMG ARMY WHICH CAPTURED AWKA SI PRESSING ATTACK, AGAINST STIFF RESISTANCE, SOUTHWEST TOWARD NNEWI RPT NNEWI, WHICH IS OJUKWU'S HOME TOWN. IN ADDITION PSYCHOLOGICAL BOOST CAPTURE (OR DESTRUCTION) OF NNEWI WOULD GIVE, IT LIKELY FMG MAY ALSO HOPE CUT OFF REBEL BRIGADE LOCATED ONITSHA, IMPORTANT COMMERCIAL CENTER AT EASTERN END DAMAGED NIGERI RIVER BRIDGE. UNITS OF ANOTHER FMG DIVISION ARE CONVERGING ON AWGU, 30 MILES SOUTH OF ENUGU IN CENTER OF EAST-CENTRAL STATE AND UNTIL RECENTLY

PAGE 3 RUTALS 6850CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
HEADQUARTERS OF BIAFRAN ARMY. THEREFORE HEAVY FIGHTING LIKELY IN NEAR FUTURE.

3. THERE HAS BEEN ESCALATION IN SOPHISTICATION EQUIPMENT USED BOTH SIDES. FMG RECENTLY ACQUIRED FROM UAR THREE SOVIET-BUILT IL-28 BOMBERS WHICH ARE BECOMING INCREASINGLY EFFECTIVE. EVEN REBEL RADIO INDICATES INCREASING CONCERN OVER BOMBINGS; FOR EXAMPLE, BIAFRA RADIO FEB. 19 REPORTED BOMBING OF AWGU KILLED 70 AND WOUNDED OTHERS. REBELS, ON THEIR SIDE, USED ANTIPERSONNEL AND LAND MINES FOR FIRST TIME IN TOUGH BATTLE FOR AWKA.

4. ON POLITICAL FRONT, FMG REMAINS ADAMANT ON REBEL ACCEPTANCE FEDERAL SYSTEM OF 12 STATES AND RENUNCIATION SECESSION. PARTLY BECAUSE IT IS CURRENTLY SMARTING OVER UNFOUNDED PRESS PLAY REGARDING COMMONWEALTH "PEACEKEEPING FORCE", FMG POSITION TOWARD REBELS HAS HARDENED CONSIDERABLY. WHILE THERE MAY BE SOME FLEXIBILITY IN EVENTUAL FMG POSITION CONCERNING NUMBER OF STATES OR REDRAWING BOUNDARIES OF STATES FMG UNLIKELY DEMONSTRATE ANY GIVE AT PRESENT.

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PAGE 4 RUTALS 6850CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
GOVERNMENT CONTROLLED PRESS UNANIMOUS AND VOCIFEROUS IN
OPPOSITION TO OUTSIDE "GOOD OFFICES" OR "MEDIATION" WHETHER
COMMONWEALTH, OAU OR PRIVATE (MISSIONARY) IN ORIGIN. STRESS
PLACED ON NIGERIA'S ABILITY SOLVE HER OWN PROBLEMS, ALTHOUGH
SOME TOP OFFICIALS RECOGNIZE THEY WOULD BE WISE NOT APPEAR
TOO TRUCULENT OR UNAWARE REVERBRATIONS NIGERIAN CIVIL WAR
ELSEWHERE IN AFRICA.
GP-3. MATHEWS.

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NR SOC 3 RED CROSS

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INFO EUR 15, IO 13, SCA 02, SCS 04, SR 01, ORM 03, SAH 03, AID 28, CIAE 00,

GPM 03, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SC 01, SP 02,

SS 20, USIA 12, RSR 01, 150 W

R 191547Z FEB 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9428
INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON 089
AMEMBASSY LONDON 2098
AMEMBASSY MADRID 089
USMISSION GENEVA 113
USMISSION USUN 241
DIA
CINCSSTRIKE/CICMEAFSA
AMCONSUL IBADAN 1641
AMCONSUL KADUNA 2186

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CORRECTED COPY

SUBJ: INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS DEVELOPMENTS

REF: LAGOS 6749 AND LAGOS 3727

PAGE 2 RUTALS 6813CC CONFIDENTIAL
1. ICRC REP HOFFMAN PAID FAREWELL CALL ON AMBASSADOR
TOAY PRIOR HIS DEPARTURE FOR GENEVA WHERE HE RESUMES DUTIES
AS DELEGATE-GENERAL FOR AFRICA. HE INTRODUCED HIS SCESSOR,
A FRENCH-SPEAKING SWISS NAMED PIERROZ, UNHAPPILY RECALLING

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CANCELLATION ICRC FLIGHT TO PORT HARCOURT (REFTEL), HOFFMAN CONFIRMED ISSUE WENT TO THE VERY TO IN FMG, AND THAT CHIEF OF STAFF BISALLA DID NOT RPT NOT GIVE WRITTEN APPROVAL FOR FLIGHT AFTER CONVERSATION WITH GOWON HIMSELF. HOFFMAN POINTED OUT BALAIR, A COMMERCIAL FIRM, UNWILLING TO UNDERTAKE FLIGHT "AT OWN RISK" BECAUSE OF INSURANCE CONSIDERATIONS AS WELL AS SECURITY. HOFFMAN INCLINED ACCEPT AS GENUINE FMG CLAIM THEY UNABLE GET INTO EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION WITH ALL UNITS WHICH MIGHT OTHERWISE HAVE FIRED AT PLANE. AS RESULT FLIGHT CANCELLATION, HOFFMAN PESSIMISTIC CONCERNING FUTURE RELIEF FLIGHTS TO "BIAFRA".

2. HOWEVER, HOFFMAN CONFIRMED THAT ICRC HAD BEEN "EXPLORING" POSSIBILITY USING EITHER SMALL BOATS UP CHANNELS, OR HAVING LARGER BOAT HEAVE-TO OFF BIAFRAN-CONTROLLED COAST SO THAT LARGE NATIVE CRAFT COULD PULL ALONGSIDE. ANY SUCH

PAGE 3 RUOLS 6813CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
OPERATIONS, OF COURSE, WOULD HAVE TO BE CLEARED WITH NIGERIAN NAVY.

3. HOFFMAN SPOKE OF NEED AUGMENT RED CROSS OPERATIONS IN CALABAR AREA. CURRENTLY ONLY FEW LOCAL RED CROSS PERSONNEL WORKING AND THEY LIMITED TO WORKING UNDER FMG ARMY CONTROL. QUESTION OF HELP FOR CIVILIAN POPULATION HAD TO BE DISCUSSED "AT VERY HIGH LEVELS" FMG.

4. REGARDING PRISONERS OF WAR AND DETAINEES, HOFFMAN SAID HE HAD VISITED MAXIMUM AND MEDIUM SECURITY AREAS KIRIKIRI PRISON AND CIVILIAN DETAINEES AT IKOYI PRISON. IN GENERAL, HE FOUND CONDITIONS TOLERABLE, BUT WAS HAVING CONTINUING ARGUMENT WITH POLICE OVER MINIMUM RIGHT DETAINEES COMMUNICATE WITH THEIR FAMILIES. HOFFMAN SAID "SOME" POLITICAL DETAINEES RELEASED LAST MONTH; EMBASSY HAS OBTAINED FIGURE OF THREE HUNDRED RELEASED FROM PRISONS SERVICE OFFICIAL.

GROUP-3. MATHEWS

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INFO EUR 15, IO 13, SCA 02, SCS 04, SR 01, ORM 03, SAH 03, AID 28, CIAE 00,

GPM 03, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SC 01, SP 02,

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R 191547Z FEB 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9428
INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON 089
AMEMBASSY LONDON 2098
AMEMBASSY MADRID 089
USMISSION GENEVA 113
USMISSION USUN 241
DIA
CINCSRIKE/CINCMAFSA
AMCONSUL IBADAN 1641
AMCONSUL KADUNA 2186

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 6813

SUBJ: INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS DEVELOPMENTS

REF: LAGOS 6749 AND LAGOS 3727

PAGE 2 RUTALS 6813CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
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A FRENCH-SPEAKING SWISS NAMED PIERROZ, UNHAPPILY RECALLING
CANCELLATION ICRC FLIGHT TO PORT HARCOURT (REFTEL). HOFFMAN
CONFIRMED ISSUE WENT TO THE VERY TOP IN FMG, AND THAT CHIEF

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PAGE 3 RUOLS 6813CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
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GROUP-3.

MATHEWS

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RSC 01, SC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SAH 03, AID 28, RSR 01, SR 01

ORM 03, 144 W.

R 191016Z FEB 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9430
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA 1587
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 385
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA 563
AMEMBASSY LONDON 2099
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA 713
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY 903
AMEMBASSY PARIS 783
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 1038
AMCONSUL IBADAN 1642
AMCONSUL KADUNA 2187
USMISSION USUN 242
USMISSION GENEVA 114
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PAGE 2 RUTALS 6816CC CONFIDENTIAL

1. SUMMARY. TWENTY TWO FOREIGN AND NIGERIAN JOURNALISTS
FLOWN TO ENUGU FEBRUARY 18 SAW THAT FMG FIRMLY IN CONTROL
OPT, UKEHE AND OTHER TOWNS AS THEY DROVE IN CONVOY TO
NSUKKA AND RETURNED LAGOS SAME DAY. BUT REBEL RAIDS

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INFO EUR 15, AID 28, SAH 03, ACDA 16, CIAE 00, GPM 03, H 02, INR 07, L 03,

NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, RSR 01,

/143 W

R 191405Z FEB 68
FM AMCONSUL KADUNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 644
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS 1361
AMEMBASSY LONDON 288
AMCONSUL IBADAN 374
CINCSTRIKE/CINCMEAFSA UNN
DIA UNN

UNCLAS KADUNA 756

1. RIVERS STATE MILGOV DIETE-SPIFF ON REPORTED
TWO WEEK FAMILIARIZATION AND GOODWILL VISIT TO
NORTHERN STATES ARRIVED IN KADUNA FEBRUARY 17.
2. DAILY TIMES FEB. 18 REPORTED GOVERNOR SAID ON
ARRIVAL IN KADUNA THAT HE EXPECTS SET UP HIS
HEADQUARTERS IN PORT HARCOURT BEFORE THE END OF
MARCH.

PAGE 2 RUDSLK 756KK UNCLAS

3. NEW NIGERIAN FEB. 19 GIVES BIG PLAY TO MILGOV'S
VISIT EMPHASIZING HIS REPORTED STATEMENT THAT NORTHERN
PEOPLE WOULD BE WELCOME AGAIN IN RIVERS STATE AS
SOON AS PORT HARCOURT AND OTHER AREAS OF THE STATE

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ARE LIBERATED. GOVERNOR'S STATEMENT AS REPORTED CONTAINS ASSURANCES OF FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN RIVERS PEOPLE AND NORTHERN PEOPLE AND GIVES EMPHASIS TO PART RIVERS PEOPLE ARE PLAYING IN PUTTING DOWN REBELLION.

4. DIETE-SPIFF ALSO REPORTED TO HAVE SAID QTE OJUKWU IS GAMBLING RIVERS STATE'S MINERAL RESOURCES TO FRENCH FIRMS IN EXCHANGE FOR ARMS, MERCENARIES AND JETS...UNQTE. STOKES

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INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 03, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00,

NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SAH 03, AID 28,

ACDA 16, RSR 01, /156 W

R 191620Z FEB 68
FM AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1502
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN 324
AMEMBASSY ACCRA 89
AMEMBASSY COTONOU 183
AMEMBASSY LAGOS 313
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AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU 235

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DIORI TOLD ME OVER WEEKEND THAT OJUKWU'S TELEPHONE HAS APPARENTLY BEEN REPAIRED AND THAT GENERAL ANKRAH HAS BEEN ABLE TO TALK TO OJUKWU. DIORI SAID HE OPES THAT EFFORTS OF THE PAPAL MISSION WHICH HAS BEEN IN NIGERIA AND SOME OF THE BRITISH EFFORTS MAY HELP BRING ABOUT A CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES. HE REITERATED AGAIN HIS FEELING THAT LAGOS AUTHORITIES HAVE TO ADOPT A LESS RIGID POSITION, PARTICULARLY

PAGE 2 RUFNCR 1185MM CONFIDENTIAL
ON SUCH MATTERS AS NUMBER OF STATES THAT WOULD MAKE UP FEDERATION. HE SAID HE AND HIS COLLAGUES WILL CONTINUE TO COUNSEL GENERAL GOWON IN THIS DIRECTION. DIORI SEEM TO FEEL

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IF THE NIGERIANS CAN JUST GET SOME DIALOGUE GOING BETWEEN THEM AND IF THE RESPECTIVE PARTIES CAN ESTABLISH MORE FLEXIBLE POSITIONS AND CONDITIONS THAT PROGRESS CAN BE MADE TOWARD RECONCILIATION. SINCE NIGER'S AMBASSADOR TO GHANA RETURNING TO ACCRA THIS WEEK DIORI EXPECTS TO GET CURRENT REPORT FROM AMBASSADOR ON ADDITIONAL ANKRAH EFFORTS WITH OJUKWU.

GP-3 RYAN

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, SAH 03, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 03, H 02, INR 07, L 03,

NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, ACDA 16,

RSR 01, 128 W

R 191230Z FEB 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9424
INFO USUN 240
AMEMBASSY ACCRA 1885
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 384
AMEMBASSY LONDON 2097
AMEMBASSY PARIS 782
AMCONSUL KADUNA 2185
AMCONSUL IBADAN 1640

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 6805

SUBJ: NIGERIAN AMBASSADOR TO UN AND U THANT

1. OVER WEEKEND ETHIOPIAN AMBASSADOR DAWIT ABDU
CONFIDED WHAT HE SAID WAS "REAL REASON FOR OGBU GOING
TO NEW YORK AT THIS TIME" WHEN POL COUNSELOR COMMENTED
OGBU WENT TO PRESENT CREDENTIALS AS PERM REP TO UN.

PAGE 2 RUTALS 6805CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
2. DAWIT INSISTED, ON BASIS INFORMATION FROM PERSON
CLOSE TO GOWON, THAT OGBU WILL URGE U THANT NOT TO RAISE
NIGERIAN PROBLEM IN ANY UN BODY. DAWIT SAID NIGERIAN
EMBASSY WASHINGTON OR NIGERIAN MISSION NEW YORK HAD
REPORTED MOVE WAS AFOOT FOR U THANT TO MAKE PUBLIC STATE-

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Jagosa 6805-
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MENT ABOUT NIGERIA AND URGE SOME KIND OF UN CONSIDERATION.
FMG IS TOTALLY AGAINST SUCH UN CONSIDERATION, AND OGBU
WAS AUTHORIZED CONVEY THIS TO U THANT IN NO UNCERTAIN
TERMS AND EMPHASIZE THAT CIVIL WAR IS STRICTLY INTERNAL
MATTER.
GP=3. MATHEWS.

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 06798 191140Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, NEA 13, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 03, H 02, INR 07, L 03,
NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, AID 28,
SP 01, ORM 03, ACDA 16, RSR 01, 170 W

R 192150Z FEB 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9420
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON 2095
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI 22
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA 51

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 6798

SUBJECT: NIGERIA: CS PEACE INITIATIVE

REF: LAGOS 6752

1. MY CANADIAN COLLEAGUE HAS TOLD ME THAT INDIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER CLAIMS HE RESPONSIBLE FOR EXTAFF BRIEFING OF DIPLOMATIC CORPS FEB 16. INDIAN SAID HE PROTESTED TO EXTAFF ABOUT PRESS REPORTS THAT INDIA WOULD PROVIDE TROOPS FOR COMMONWEALTH PEACE FORCE FOR NIGERIA AND TOLD EXTAFF THAT IF FMG DID NOT DENY PRESS REPORTS, HE WOULD HIMSELF ISSUE

PAGE 2 RUTALS 6798CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
PUBLIC STATEMENT. EXTAFF THEREUPON ARRANGED BRIEFING FOR CORPS.

2. THIS UNFORTUNATE INDIAN INTERVENTION MUST HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO GROWING FMG DISENCHANTMENT WITH CS INITIATIVE.

GP-3 MATHEWS.

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PAGE 01 191644Z

46-43
ACTION AF 06

INFO SS 10, GPM 03, INR 07, IO 03, EUR 08, RSR 01, FILE 01, 039 W

P R 191500Z FEB 68
FM USDAO/LAGOS NIGERIA
TO DIA
SECSTATE WASHDC
RUEDPSA/CINCSTRIKE
CINCLANT
INFO CIA
DA
AMCONSUL IBADAN
AMCONSUL KADUNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L 0059 FEB 68, SGD HALLIGAN, COUNTRY: NIGERIA.
SUBJECT: UPDATE CURRENT FMG/EASTERN MIL SITUATION. DIA FOR
DIACO: CNCSTRIKE FOR STRJ2-C: DA FOR ACSI.
1. FOLLOWING AVAILABLE AS OF THIS DATE FROM USUALLY RELIABLE
SOURCES ARMY HEADQUARTERS:
A. SECOND DIV - AWKA AREA: REF PAR 1, MY 0056 FEB 68: SOURCES
SAY FED TWO DIV FORCES "SECURED AWKA AND AREA IMMEDIATELY
SURROUNDING" AS OF 18 FEB AND MOVE SW TOWARD NNEWI NOW UNDERWAY.
IN SUPPORTING MOVE AT LEAST ONE BN COLUMN MOVING WEST ROUTE TEN

PAGE 2 RUTALS 6811CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
TOWARD ONITSHA TO "KEEP PRESSURE ON" REBEL FIFTY FOUR BRIGADE
DEFENDING THEREAT. SOURCES SAY THAT FOR FIRST TIME, IN COURSE
ATTACK AWKA DEFENSES, FED FORCES RAN INTO "LAND AND ANTI-PERSONNEL
MINES THICKLY SEWN IN AREA BY DEFENDING REBEL FORCES". (ATTEMPTING
DETERMINE NOMENCLATURE ITEMS ENCOUNTERED). (FEDERAL PLANNERS APPEAR
CONVINCED THAT AS RESULT PRESSURES ON NNEWI WHICH WILL DEVELOP
NEAR FUTURE AND THREATEN CUT OFF REBEL FIFTY FOUR BRIGADE ONITSHA,
REBEL FORCES WILL BE FORCED ABANDON DEFENSES ONITSHA. IF AND WHEN

MICROFILMED BY GS/A

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THIS OCCURS, CONCEPT SEEMS TO BE MOVE SEVEN BRIGADE, SECOND DIV, NOW ASABA IN DEFENSIVE POSTURE, EAST ACCROSS NIGER FOR EMPLOYMENT CURRENT OPERATIONS NORTHWEST SECTOR. POSSIBLE EMPLOYMENT THIS BRIGADE IS ROAD SECURITY MAIN LINES COMMUNICATION, FIRST AND SECOND DIVS, BUT THIS DOES NOT APPEAR FIRM AS YET).
B. SECURITY REAR AREAS: REF PAR 2, MY 0053, SOURCES SAY ROUTE THREE FROM NSUKKA SOUTH TO NIE MILE CORNER CONSIDERED STILL VULNERABLE HARRASSMENT AND AMBUSH BY ELEMENTS REBEL FIFTY FOUR (ONITSHA) AND FIFTY SEVEN (CONSIDERED DISPERSED) BRIGADES WHICH HAVE BEEN OPERATING IN AREA SINCE ABORTIVE ATTACKS NSUKKA, UKEHE AND OPI 07/08 FEB. ALTHOUGH FED COMMANDERS ESTIMATE REBEL FORCES ORIGINALLY NUMBERED APPROX SEVEN HUNDRED MEN, THEY NOW CLAIM

PAGE 3 RUTALS 6811CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
ACTIONS SINCE THAT DATE HAVE REDUCED ORIGINAL FORCE INTO "STRAGGLERS, INFILTRATORS AND SMALL UNITS OPERATING ON OWN". SOURCES SAY REBEL FORCES, WHILE NOT CONSTITUTING "REAL THREAT" FED OPERATIONS AREA HAVE "KEPT OUR CHAPS BUSY DEFENDING REAR AREAS AND LINES OF COMMUNICATION". SOURCES SAY MANY REBEL TROOPS IN AREA OPERATED IN CIVILIAN CLOTHES "OVER THEIR UNIFORMS" AND SOME HAVE BEEN AIDED BY IBO CIVILIAN RETURNEES IN AREA. BY AND LARGE, HOWEVER, IBO CIVILIANS IN AREA "PREFERRED REMAIN NEUTRAL AND NOT BECOME INVOLVED". FED COMMANDERS SAY, HOWEVER, NET EFFECT REBEL ACTIONS HAS BEEN TO AGAIN DISRUPT MOVE IBO CIVILIANS BACK INTO AREA AS THESE CIVILIANS NOW AGAIN FEAR FED TROOP REPRISALS FOR SUPPORT SOME RETURNEES IN AREA AFFORDED REBEL FORCES.
2. ON 16 FEB DATT TALKED WITH NIGERIAN NAVAL COMMANDER JUST RETURNED PATROL BONNY AREA, ON 17 FEB, DAO MAP OFFICER TALKED WITH LTC AKINRIANADE, COMMANDER FED FIFTEENTH BRIGADE, BONNY, WHO IN LAGOS BRIEFLY. STORIES BOTH MATCH, THAT IS, FED FORCES CONTROL ALL BONNY ISLAND, PERTERSIDE ACCROSS BONNY CHANNEL FROM BONNY PROPER, AND DISTANCE APPROX 10-12 MILES UP BONNY CHANNEL. SCATTERED ELEMENTS REB FORCES "MAY BE STILL OPERATING IN MANGROVE SWAMPS, BUT CONSITUTE NO SIGNIFICANT THREAT AT PRESENT".

PAGE 4 RUTALS 6811CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
IAKINRIANADE SAID, HOWEVER, HE HOPED HE NOT HIT BY "MASSIVE" REBEL

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ATTACKS AGAIN, AS HE "DID NOT HAVE ENOUGH TROOPS HANDLE ANOTHER REALLY LARGE SCALE ATTACK PRESENT TIME." SOURCES SAID, WITH EXCEPTION OCCASSIONAL HELICOPTER ACTIVITY, NO REBEL AIR ACTIVITY AT BONNY.

3. NIGERIAN AIR FORCE. COMPETENT OBSERVERS SAW TWO IL-28S (NOW WEARING CAMOUFLAGE PAINT) AND ONE HUNTING PROVOST MAKURDI AIR STRIP 18 FEB.

4. NIGERIAN NAVY. FOLLOWING VESSELS AT SEA AS OF 17 FEB: NIGERIA, ENUGU, ELOLE AND OPUSO. ALL OTHERS BASE APAPA. RELIABLE SOURCE SAID ONE NEW RUSS ORIGIN MOTOR PATROL BOATS "HAVING ENGINE TROUBLE".

5. MISC: HEAVY ARMY RECRUITING BONNY CAMP, VICTORIA ISLAND, 19 FEB. GP-3

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XR POL 3 COMMONWEALTH
XR PET 10-3 BIAFRA

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 06792 171530Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, SAH 03, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 03, H 02, INR 07, L 03,
NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, ACDA 16,
E 15, INT 06, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, COM 08, RSR 01, 189 W

R 171307Z FEB 68.
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS.
TO SECSTATE WAHDC 9417.
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON 2094
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA 050
AMEMBASSY PARIS 778
AMCONSUL KADUNA 2183
AMCONSUL IBADAN 1638

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 6792

SUBJ: NIGERIAN REACTION AGAINST COMMONWEALTH PEACE
INITIATIVE HARDENS

1. LAGOS DAILY TIMES FEB. 17 FEATURES FRONT-PAGE STORY
THAT "HIGH GOVT. CIRCLES" HAVE SAID FOREIGN PRESS REPORTS
THAT ARNOLD SMITH HAD COME TO ARRANGE TERMS FOR COMMONWEALTH

PAGE 2 RUTAJ 6792CC: C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
PEACE-KEEPING FORCE "TO PATROL THE BATTLE ZONE IN NIGERIA
WERE TOTALLY FALSE". TIMES QUOTES UNNAMED PERSON AS SAYING,
"WE NEVER DISCUSSED WITH SMITH THE REMOTEST POSSIBILITY OF
A COMMONWEALTH PEACE-KEEPING FORCE". THIS WAS "WISHFUL
THINKING" OF OVERSEAS PRESS. STORY GOES ON TO SAY THAT BOTH
SMITH AND REBEL REPRESENTATIVE DR. DIKE HAVE BEEN TOLD CLEAR.

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PAGE 02 LAGOS 06792 171530Z

LY THAT FMG'S MINIMUM TERMS ARE THAT REBELS MUST ACCEPT
TWELVE-STATE FEDERAL STRUCTURE AND MOVE OUT OF REMAINING
AREAS THEY OCCUPY IN SOUTHEASTERN AND RIVERS STATES. FMG
SOURCES, WHILE ADMITTING THAT REBEL FEAR OF BEING "SLAUGHTERED"
MIGHT STEM FROM "GENUINE FEELINGS", SAID THAT ALLOWING FOREIGN
TROOPS INTO COUNTRY "COULD HAVE TWO SERIOUS REPERCUSSIONS
...UNDERMINING FEDERAL GOVT'S ABILITY TO MAINTAIN PEACE AND
ORDER AND GUARANTEE SAFETY OF LIVES AND PROPERTY...ALSO
INTERNATIONALIZE NIGERIAN CONFLICT".

2. DAILY SKETCH OF IBADAN FEB. 17 REPORTS THAT "AN
OFFICIAL STATEMENT" SAID THREE OF OJUKWU'S ENVOYS, OKPARA,
DIKE AND MOJEKWU, HAD MADE THREE APPROACHES TO FMG IN
ATTEMPT TO END WAR. ON ONE OCCASION THREE NIGERIAN PERM
SECS HAD MET DIKE IN LONDON. ON ANOTHER, ARIKPO HAD REPRE-

PAGE 3 RUTALS 6792CC C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
SENTED FMG IN TALKS WITH ARNOLD SMITH WHO SPOKE "ON BEHALF OF
REBELS". OFFICIAL STATEMENT SAID THAT ON EACH OCCASION REBELS
WERE TOLD THEY MUST GIVE UP IDEA OF SOVEREIGNTY AND ACCEPT
TWELVE STATES.

3. ABOVE NEWS STORIES OBVIOUSLY OBTAINED FROM MEMBER
INNER CIRCLE FMG. THIS MORNING ARIKPO TOLD AMBASSADOR HE
HAD NOT GIVEN STORY TO PRESS AND ALSO CLAIMED HE WAS NOT
SOURCE OF PRESS ACCOUNTS YESTERDAY ABOUT OJUKWU'S SALE
OF PETROLEUM CONCESSIONS TO FRENCH FIRMS (LAGOS 6762).
ARIKPO THIS MORNING GAVE AMBASSADOR MIMEOGRAPHED "VERBATIM
REPORT" OF HIS SPEECH TO DIPLOMATIC CORPS FEB. 16 (LAGOS 6752).

4. EVIDENTLY MINEXTAFF HAS FOUND IT NECESSARY ISSUE ITS
OWN VERSION OF WHAT HAS TRANSPIRED. ALL REPORTS INDICATE,
HOWEVER, THAT FMG ATTITUDE TOWARD NEGOTIATIONS WITH
BIAFRA AND AGAINST ANY FOREIGN INVOLVEMENT HAS HARDENED
GREATLY DURING LAST FEW DAYS. FOREIGN PRESS MISHANDLING
LARGELY RESPONSIBLE ALTHOUGH SOME THINK ARNOLD SMITH TRIED
DO TOO MUCH TOO FAST AND TALKED TOO MUCH.

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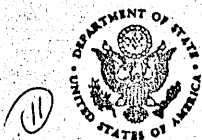
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MATHEWS

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DEF 19-9 ISR-BIAFRA
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XC POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

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PAGE 01 KADUNA 00751 191022Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, NEA 13, SCI 05, ACDA 16, IO 13, CIAE 00, GPM 03, H 02, INR 07,

L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, RSR 01,

/143 W

R 171600Z FEB 68
FM AMCONSUL KADUNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 641
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS 1357
AMEMBASSY LONDON 286
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV 1
CINCSTRIKE/CINCEAFSA
DIA
AMCONSUL IBADAN 371

UNCLAS KADUNA 751

KADUNA CNNIGERIAN FEBRUARY 17 CARRIES BACK PAGE STORY THAT
TEN REBEL SOLDIERS ARE TRAINING IN ISRAEL IN MANUFACTURE OF ROCKETS.

BASIS FOR STORY IS HAND WRITTEN LETTER (REPRODUCED IN FULL) FROM
ONE PI, OGBONNA OKONKWO OF "RESEARCH AND PRODUCTION UNIT,
BGXFRAN ARMY, ENYIOGUGU SECONDARY SCHOOL, MBAISE MBWERRI".
WRITER DESCRIBES HIS UNIT AS "THE ROCKET PLATOON, IZ. WE MANUFAG-
TUREROCKETS AND TAKE THEM TO THE FRONT.
SO UR COURSE TO (IN 7) ISRAEL IS RIGHT ON TO THE SAMEWYNCE."

2. LETTER DATED 22FARYHAQP STATES THAT GROUP OF TEN SOLDIERS,
ACCOMPANIED BY PROFESSOR ENE, DEAN FACULTY SCIENCE, UNIV BIAFRA
(UNIV NIGERIA NSUKKA), ANOTHER PROFESSOR, AND THREE DOCTC BUT DOES
NOT DESCRIBE MISSION OF LATTER TWO GROUPS. LETTER SAYS GROUP DUE
DEPART DAY LETTER WRITTEN AND SAYS THEY EXPECT RETURN END FEBRUARY.
WRITER DESCRIBES ROUTE TO ISRAEL AS "THROUGH CAMEROON TO EAST AFRICA

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PAGE 01 KADUNA 00752 191007Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, CIAE 00, GPM 03, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04,
RSC 01, SC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, RSR 01, 096 W

R 171730Z FEB 68
FM AMCONSUL KADUNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 642
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS 1358
AMEMBASSY LONDON 287
CINCSRIKE/CINCEAFSA
DIA
AMCONSUL IBADAN 372

UNCLAS KADUNA 752

REF: FBIS REPORT N151240

1. REF MESSAGE CARRIED TEXT REBEL RADIO BROADCAST FEBRUARY 15 WHICH STATED DOZEN EMIRS HAD INDICATED THEY WOULD NOT ATTEND MEETING OF COUNCIL OF CHIEFS IN KADUNA FEBRUARY 17 DUE FEAR OF BOMBING RAID.
2. THERE NO EVIDENCE WHATSOEVER TO SUPPORT INFERENCE THAT "COUNCIL OF CHIEFS" WAS TO MEET IN KADUNA ANY TIME IN FORSEEABLE FUTURE. ON FEBRUARY 16 THE INTERIM ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL (FORMER NORTHERN GOVT) DENIED REBEL RADIO REPORT, CALLING IT "WILD FANTASY". IAC DENIAL POINTED OUT OLD COUNCIL OF CHIEFS ABOLISHED SINCE CREATION OF STATES AND MILGOVS IN VARIOUS STATES HAVE CREATED COUNCILS OF CHIEFS OF THEIR OWN. AS TO BOMBING RAIDS, IAC SAID EVERYONE KNOWS THERE HAVE BEEN NO REBEL RAIDS ANYWHERE IN THE COUNTRY SINCE REBEL PLANE SHOT DOWN OVER LAGOS OCTOBER 6.

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PAGE 01 PARIS 10452 162007Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, DODE 00, GPM 03, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 07, SC 01,

SP 02, USIA 12, CIA 04, NSA 02, AID 28, PC 04, ACDA 16, RSR 01, 130 W

R 161820Z FEB 68
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9479
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA 114
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 231
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA 744
AMEMBASSY LAGOS 277
AMEMBASSY LONDON 3903
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA 079
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 182

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PARIS 10452

SUBJ: COMMONWEALTH PEACE INITIATIVE FOR NIGERIA.

REF: LAGOS 6666

1. LE MONDE AFRICAN CORRESPONDENT DECRAENE JOINED JOURNALIST CHORUS WITH ARTICLE IN FEB. 16 EDITION SINGING PRAISES OF COMMONWEALTH PEACE INITIATIVE. HE ATTRIBUTES BRITISH DECISION UNDERTAKE INITIATIVE TO REALIZATION NEITHER SIDE ABLE WIN MILITARY

PAGE 2 RUFNCR 10452 C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
VICTORY, PRESSURE FROM AFRICAN MEMBERS COMMONWEALTH (E.G., ZAMBIA AND TANZANIA), AND UNFAVORABLE EFFECTS ON BRITISH ECONOMY.

2. MOST INTERESTING ASPECT OF STORY IS FLAT STATEMENT THAT

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"SEPARATISTS ARE DISPOSED TO STOP THE FIGHTING" AND ARE "APPARENTLY DECIDED TO STUDY WHAT SOME PEOPLE ALREADY CALL "COMMONWEALTH PEACE PLAN". DEGRAENE TOLD EMBOFF HE IS CERTAIN THIS ACCURATELY PRESENTS "BIAFRA" POSITION SINCE HE HEARD IT FROM "BIAFRAN SPOKESMAN" (POSSIBLE FORMER FIRST SECRETARY NIGERIAN EMBASSY UWECHUE WHO REPRESENTS "BIAFRA" HERE WITH NO OFFICIAL STATUS VIS-A-VIS FRENCH GOVERNMENT).

3. DEGRAENE GOES ON TO SAY THAT FEDERAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT IS MAINTAINING COMPLETE SILENCE AND NO ONE CAN SAY WHETHER OR NOT GOWON "IS PREPARED TO RESPOND FAVORABLY TO INITIATIVES UNDERWAY." (COMMENT: STORY WRITTEN PRIOR TO PRESS CONFERENCE REPORTED LAGOS 67161).

4. ARTICLE GENERALLY HAS PRO-"BIAFRA" SLANT BUT DOES QUOTE STATEMENT ISSUED RECENTLY BY PARIS GROUP CALLED "FRANCO-NIGERIAN ASSOCIATION" WHICH ACCUSES "DOUBTFUL ELEMENTS MADE FAMOUS BY SORDID AFFAIRS SUCH AS KIDNAPPING OF COLONEL ARGOU AND BEN BARKA" (I.E., FRENCH SECRET SERVICE) OF OPENLY RECRUITING MERCENARIES AND BUYING

P3 3 RUFNCR 10452 C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
ARMS FOR "OJUKWU CLIQUE".

5. COMMENT: WE INCLINED AGREE WITH VIEW OF BRITISH EMBOFF WHO FOLLOWS AFRICAN AFFAIRS THAT "BIAFRAN" LEADERS PROBABLY LEADING FROM WEAKNESS IN PUBLICIZING WIDELY THEIR WILLINGNESS TO NEGOTIATE. NEVERTHELESS, EXPRESSION OF THIS APPARENT REASONABLENESS WILL BE WARMLY RECEIVED BY FRENCH GOVERNMENT, PRES, AND PUBLIC OPINION.

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 06761 171059Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, CIAE 00, DODE 00, INR 07, NSAE 00, P 04, RSC 01, USIA 15, RSR 01
/055 W

R 161830Z FEB 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9400
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON 2087
AMEMBASSY ASMARA 1579

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REF: STATE 113967

1. THEODORE BROWN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AMERICAN NEGRO LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE ON AFRICA, LEFT LAGOS MORNING FEB. 16 FOR ACCRA AND LONDON AFTER THREE-DAY VISIT. HE STAYED MAINLAND HOTEL, CONTACTED AMERICAN FRIENDS, AND CALLED BRIEFLY AT EMBASSY THIS MORNING.

2. BROWN TOLD DCM HIS GROUP CONTINUES BE CONCERNED ABOUT

PAGE 2 RUTALS 6761CC C O N F I D E N T I N K L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
NIGERIAN SITUATION AND WISHES DO SOMETHING TO END CIVIL WAR. BROWN SAID HE HAD SEEN FMG OFFICIALS, INCLUDING ARIKPO, WHO HAD AGREED TO TALK WITH HIM AGAIN IN THE FUTURE. BROWN WAS NOT CLEAR ABOUT SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES AND DID NOT HAVE DEFINITE PLAN OF ACTION. HE EXPRESSED DESIRE TO VISIT BIAFRA, SAYING OJUKWU'S AGENTS HAD ASSURED TRIP COULD BE MADE WITHOUT DIFFICULTY. DCM TOLD HIM RISK OF SUCH TRAVEL QUITE GREAT, THAT EVEN IF HE ARRIVED SAFELY NO ASSURANCE HE WOULD BE ABLE

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 03, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00,

NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, ACDA 16, AID 28,

SR 01, ORM 03, RSR 01, 157 W

P 161205Z FEB 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS:
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIOTY 9396
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 2084
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY 48

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 6752

SUBJ: NIGERIA: CS PEACE INITIATIVE

REF: LAGOS 6716

1. COMMISSIONER ESTAFF ARIKPO SUMMONED CHIEFS DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS THIS MORNING. HE SAID HEAD FMG GOWON HAD INSTRUCTED HIM TO GIVE CORPS CONFIDENTIAL BRIEFING ON ARMOLD SMITH VISIT IN VIEW HIGHLY INACCURATE SPECULATIVE REPORTS APPEARING IN BRITISH PRESS. (US PRESS ALSO MENTIONED IN ANSWER TO QUESTION.)

2. ARIKPO STATED SMITH HAD MADE NUMBER OF APPROACHES RE NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT TO FMG REPRESENTATIVES OVER PAST 4 MONTHS. SMITH RECENTLY TOOK INITIATIVE TO ARRANGE VISIT

PAGE TWO RUTALS 6752: C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
TO LAGOS AS HETHOUGHT HE HAD IMPORTANT INFORMATION CONCERNING

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REBELS' POSITION ON NEGOTIATIONS TO TRANSMIT TO FMG. SMITH AND FMG HAD LONG TALKS ON FEB 9 AND 10 WHICH ARIKPO CHARACTERIZED AS QTE VERY IMPORTANT DISCUSSIONS ON THE NIGERIAN SITUATION UNQTE.

3 SMITH REPORTED ON HIS RECENT TALKS WITH REBEL REPRESENTATIVES AND MADE CERTAIN PROPOSALS FOR NEXT STEPS WHICH WERE UNACCEPTABLE TO FMG. GOWON MADE CLEAR TO SMITH THAT REBELS MUST RENOUNCE SECESSION AND ACCEPT FEDERAL UNION OF TWELVE STATES AS PREREQUISITE TO CEASE FIRE AND SUBSEQUENT CONSTITUTIONAL NEGOTIATIONS. (THIS PORTION ARIKPO STATEMENT OBVIOUSLY CAREFULLY DRAFTED IN ADVANCE AS HE REPEATED IT PRACTICALLY VERBATIM FOR TRANSLATION INTO FRENCH AFTER FIRST RENDITION WHEN INTERPRETER NOT ALERTED. IT IS WORTHY OF NOTE THAT REMOVAL OF OJUKWU NOT CITED AS PRECONDITION TO CEASE FIRE AND BY IMPLICATION THAT WHILE CEASE FIRE DEPENDENT ON CONDITIONS TALKS WITH REBELS ARE NOT.)

4. ARIKPO STATED PRESS REPORTS THAT FMG AND SMITH HAD DISCUSSED INTRODUCTION QTE COMMONWEALTH TROOPS UNQTE INTO

PAGE THREE RUTLS 6752CC C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
NIGERIA WERE QTE COMPLETELY FALSE UNQTE. GOWON HAD INSTRUCTED HIM TO EXPRESS REGRET TO DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIVES OF OTHER COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES WHICH PRESS HAD CITED AS POSSIBLE SOURCES OF TROOPS.

5. ARIKPO SAID THERE HAD BEEN DISCUSSION BETWEEN FMG AND SMITH OF RECOGNIZED PROBLEM OF PHYSICAL SECURITY OF REBEL LEADERS AND IBOS GENERALLY. FMG HAD MADE CLEAR THAT IF REBELS ACCEPTED TWO BASIC CONDITIONS FMG WOULD QTE BE WILLING WORK OUT ARRANGEMENTS UNQTE TO MEET THIS PROBLEM.

EXEMPT. MATHEWS

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, GPM 03, NSC 10, SC 01, SP 02, SS 20, RSC 01, L 03, H 02,

P 04, USIA 12, CIAE 00, INR 07, NSAE 00, NIC 01, ACDA 16, RSR 01, AID 28,

/154 W

R 161745Z FEB 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9406
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA 1581
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 382
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA 560
AMEMBASSY LONDON 2089
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA 710
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY 901
AMEMBASSY PARIS 76
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 1034
USUN NEWYORK 239
CINCSRIKE CINCEAFSA
DIA
AMCONSUL KADUNA 2181
AMCONSUL IBADAN 1636
BT
C O N F I D E N T I A L

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SUB: CHIEF ADEBO'S SPEECH ON "WORLD AND NIGERIA"

I. SUMMARY: FORMER NIGERIAN PERMREP UN CHIEF ADEBO
GAVE THOUGHT-PROVOKING PUBLIC LECTURE CHAIRED BY COMMISS-

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IONER EXTAF ARIKPO AT NIGERIAN INSTITUTE INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS FEBRUARY 15. MEETING WELL ATTENDED BY SENIOR GOVT OFFICIALS, INTELLECTUALS, DIPLOMATIC CORPS, ETC. HE GAVE PRIMARY ATTENTION TO ACHIEVEMENT NATIONAL UNITY, RECONCILIATION AND REHABILITATION FOR ALL. ON BALANCE, SPOKE HIGHLY OF AMERICANS AND EXPRESSED BELIEF THEY SUPPORT NIGERIAN UNITY, AFTER FIRST SHOCK CAUSED BY 1966 COUP.

2. THEME OF SPEECH WAS NEED TO PUT EVENTS IN NIGERIA SINCE FIRST COUP JAN. 66 IN PERSPECTIVE. MAJOR POINT WAS THAT BOTH FOREIGNERS (AND IN CONTEXT ADEBO MEANT AND REPEATEDLY REFERRED TO WEST) AND NIGERIANS HAD FALSE PICTURE OF REALITIES IN NIGERIA. SHOCK OF JAN. 66: COUP, ALTHOUGH IT "SHATTERED ILLUSIONS" AT HOME AND

ABROAD, WAS BENEFICIAL IN THAT BOTH NIGERIANS AND FOREIGNERS "NOW HAD MORE REALISTIC PICTURE...WHAT NIGERIA NEEDS TODAY IS NEITHER FLATTERY NOR ABUSE." "SPEAK OF ME AS I AM".

3. FOR EXAMPLE, RE SOVIET ARMS PURCHASE, ADEBO POINTED OUT MANY OF NIGERIA'S "WESTERN FRIENDS" DISAPPOINTED, HURT AND SURPRISED BY FMG ACTION, DESPITE INITIAL REFUSALS TO SELL BY WEST. IN DISPASSIONATE LANGUAGE ADEBO REAFFIRMED FMG SOVEREIGN RIGHT PURCHASE ARMS WHERE IT CHOSE, SAYING THAT SO LONG AS PEOPLE WITH WHOM GOVT DEALT DID NOT TRY TO SUBVERT NIGERIAN PEOPLE, "WE OUGHT TO BE READY TO SEEK ASSISTANCE WHEREVER WE CAN GET ASSISTANCE... MANY PEOPLE IN WESTERN COUNTRIES THINK THAT IF YOU TAKE CUP OF TEA FROM COMMUNIST IT WILL BE DOPED WITH COMMUNIST DOCTRINE". HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT VERY FACT THERE WAS SUCH STRONG WESTERN REACTION TO NIGERIA'S PURCHASE FROM USSR IMPLIED THAT NIGERIA'S FRIENDS THOUGHT COUNTRY WAS STILL SOMEHOW DEPENDENT.

4. IN DISCUSSING NIGERIA AS IT WAS BEFORE FIRST COUP HE

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SAID, "RESPONSIBILITY FOR FAILURE OF FIRST REPUBLIC WAS NOT SOLELY THAT OF POLITICIANS". SOME OF CIVIL SERVANTS AND ACADEMIC PEOPLE ALSO FAILED TO DO THEIR PART, AND SOME BUSINESSMEN WERE "OUT TO PROFIT FROM THE CORRUPTION...IN ALL OF THESE AREAS THERE WERE NOT ENOUGH OF THE RIGHT TYPE". THEN, APPARENTLY THINKING OF MANY CURRENT STATEMENTS IN NIGERIA CONDEMNING CORRUPTION OF POLITICIANS, HE SAID, "POLITICS IS INEVITABLE IN THE WORLD AND WE HAD BETTER GET OUR SIGHTS STRAIGHT ABOUT THIS THING CALLED POLITICS".

5. IN ONE OF MANY COMPARISONS WITH US, ADEBO POINTED OUT ACHIEVEMENT NATIONAL UNITY NOT RPT NOT EASY ACHIEVE ANYWHERE. WORLD HAD NO RIGHT EXPECT NIGERIA ACHIEVE IN SEVEN YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE WHAT AMERICA HAD NOT YET FULLY ACHIEVED AFTER MORE THAN 180 YEARS AND BLOODY CIVIL WAR. HE ADDED, "IN THIS COUNTRY SOME PEOPLE HAVE THE FEELING THAT AMERICA IS AGAINST THE UNITY OF NIGERIA. I DON'T THINK THEY ARE."

6. ADEBO PLACED GREAT EMPHASIS ON GOAL OF ACHIEVING NATIONAL UNITY WITHOUT FOREIGN INTERFERENCE. AT SAME TIME RECONCILIATION AND RECONSTRUCTION MUST BE GIVEN HIGH PRIORITY. HE SPOKE OF "THE GREATER TASK TO COME--THE TASK OF RECONSTRUCTION". AGAIN CITING AMERICAN EXAMPLE, ADEBO REFERRED TO NECESSITY AVOID GIVING "CARPETBAGGER" TREATMENT TO VANQUISHED REBELS. REFERRING TO AMERICAN CIVIL WAR, POINTED OUT "ANOTHER PRESIDENT JOHNSON WHO SUCCEEDED TO HIGH OFFICE BY ACCIDENT" AMONG THOSE WHO LEFT "GREAT MARK" ON HISTORY. ADEBO EXPLICITLY LINKED THIS COMMENT TO CURRENT NIGERIAN SITUATION WITH EXPRESSION HOPE FMG LEADERSHIP WOULD CHOOSE PATH RECONCILIATION RATHER THAN RETRIBUTION. HE ADDED, "THE SAVING OF NIGERIA MUST BE ESSENTIALLY BY NIGERIANS".

7. ADEBO HELD TO FMG POLICY LINE OF NO SECESSION AND ACCEPTANCE FEDERAL SYSTEM. HIS PRESENTATION NOTABLY MORE THOUGHTFUL, FARSEEING AND CONCILIATORY THAN ARIKPO'S PRESENTATION DAY BEFORE. GENERAL TONE WAS CLEARLY PRO-WESTERN AND SPECIFICALLY FAVORABLE TO US. ADEBO'S

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PHILOSOPHIC BUT PRACTICAL EXPOSITION WELL RECEIVED, BUT
FOR MANY THE FACT HE NO LONGER VOICE FOR NIGERIA AT UN,
NOR FACTOR IN DOMESTIC POLITICS, ONLY POINTED UP HOW MUCH
PEOPLE LIKE HIM ARE NEEDED IN CURRENT SITUATION.

DECON 2/16/69 MATHEWS.

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DEFENSE DEPT. 2-16-68

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ACTION AF 15

INFO SS 10, GPM 03, P 03, INR 07, SSO 00, FILE 01, RSR 01, 1040 W

P R 161200Z FEB 68
FM USDAO/LAGOS NIGERIA
TO DIA WASHDC PRIORITY
SECSTATE
CINCSTRIKE
CINCLANT
INFO CIA WASHDC
DA
AMCONSUL IBADAN
AMCONSUL KADUNA

S E C R E T 0056 FEB 68. SGD: HALLIGAN. COUNTRY: NIGERIA.
SUBJECT: UPDATE CURRENT FMG/EASTERN MIL SITUATION. DIA FOR
DIACO: CINCSTRIKE FOR STRJ2-C: DA FOR ACSI.
1. REF PAR 3A, MY 0053 FEB 68: USUALLY RELIABLE SOURCES ARMY D
CONTINUE MAINTAIN FED FORCES SECOND DIV "IN AWKA" BUT FIGHTING
STILL "RATHER HEAVY IN AREA". (DATT COMMENT: THERE VERY LITTLE
DOUBT DATT'S MIND BASED OVERALL ATTITUDE SOURCES ARMY HQ AND INFO
AVAIL THAT MAJOR FED PUSH UNDERWAY ENTIRE NORTHWESTERN SECTOR.
IN ADDITION AWKA, OVERALL OBJECTIVES APPEAR BE AWGU AND TOWN NNEWI

PAGE 2 RUTALS 6748CC S E C R E T
(0600N0655E) APPROX FIFTEEN MILES SOUTHEAST ONITSHA AND SLIGHTLY
MOROSOUTHWEST AWKA. THIS OJUKWU'S HOME TOWN AND DATT BELIEVES
MURITALLE MUHAMMED FIRMLY COMMITTED DESTROYING TOWN AS PART HIS
CURRENT PUSH. DATT FURTHER BELIEVES CURRENT OFFENSIVE DESIGNED
PRODUCE SIGNIFICANT POLITICAL AS WELL AS MILITARY GAINS WHICH
WOULD BE ACCOMPLISHED BY ANNOUNCEMENT CAPTURE AWKA AND AWGU
AS WELL AS DESTRUCTION NNEWI.
2. PHOTO LAGOS DAIL TIMES MORNING 15 FEB SHOWS FED SOLDIER USING

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RECOILESS ANTI-TANK WEAPON. FOLLOWING IDENTIFICATION NOW MADE FROM MATERIAL AVAIL THIS OFFICE; WEAPON IS NEW SOVIET ANTI-TANK LAUNCHER RPG-7 WHICH REPLACED OLDER RPG-2. TUBE LENGTH ONE THOUSAND MM. TUBE CALIBER FORTY POINT ONE THREE MM. CALIBER PROJECTILE EIGHTY MM (PROJECTILE DOES NOT ENTER TUBE OF WEAPON). TB 381-5-1, C8 ITEM NUMBER AND NOMENCLATURE FOR PROJECTILE IS FOM-2-1330-3-2, HEAT GRENADE MODEL H

*7. NUMBERS AVAIL AND FURTHER DETAILS AS OBTAINED.

3. ALL THREE FED DIV COMMANDERS HAD TACTICAL MEETING, FOR PURPOSE COORDINATING "NEXT PHASE FEDERAL MIL OPS", AT MAKURDI THIRTEEN FEB 68. ADEKUNLE IN LAGOS AS OF EVENING FOURTEEN FEB, MUHAMMED AND SHUWA REMAIN WITH UNITS AT FRONT. INDICATION, AS ABOVE, MAJOR

PAGE 3 RUTALS 6748CC S E C R E T

MOVES RIGHT NOW ARE BEING MADE BY FIRST AND SECOND DIVS WITH THIRD IN SUPPORTING ROLE AT PRESENT.

GP-3.

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XR SOC 3 REDCROSS

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INFO EUR 15, IO 13, GPM 03, NSC 10, SC 01, SP 02, SS 20, RSC 01, L 03, H 02,
P 04, USIA 12, INR 07, CIA 04, NSAE 00, SAH 03, AID 28, SCS 04, SCA 02,
RSR 01, SR 01, ORM 03, 154 W

R 151330Z FEB 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9379
INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON 83
AMEMBASSY LONDON 2081
AMEMBASSY MADRID 87
AMCONSUL IBADAN UNN
RUAKA/AMCONSUL KADUNA 2171
USUN NEWYORK 236
DIA
CINCSRIKE CINCPACAFSA
USMISSION GENEVA 111

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SUBJ: RED CROSS PLANE SCHEDULED FLY "BIAFRA"

REF: LAGOS 6633 (NOTAL)

PAGE 2 RUTALS 6718CC CONFIDENTIAL
1. HOFFMAN, ICRC REP, TOLD EMBOFF THAT FMG HAS GIVEN PER-
MISSION FOR ICRC PLANE TO LAND PORT HARCOURT FEB. 18 WITHOUT
PRIOR TOUCHDOWN ON NIGERIAN TERRITORY. HOFFMAN ATTRIBUTED
CHANGE IN FMG HEADLINE POSITION ON TOUCHDOWN LAGOS PRIOR
GOING EAST TO ASTUTE LOBBYING BY ALHAJI GOBIR, NORTHERNER
ASSIGNED TO CABINET OFFICE. HOFFMAN THINKS GOBIR FINALLY

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CONVINCED KEY MEMBERS SUPREME MILITARY COUNCIL IT IN FMG INTEREST LET FLIGHT GO, ESPECIALLY AT TIME THEY TAKING NEGATIVE LINE ON ALLEGED COMMONWEALTH SYG PEACE EFFORTS. QUESTION SIMILAR SUPPLIES FOR FMG IN ABEYANCE FOR TIME BEING. EMBASSY SURMISES THIS BEING HELD BACK SO THAT HOFFMAN'S SUCCESSOR WILL HAVE SOMETHING SWEET FOR FMG ON ENTRY DUTY LAGOS NEXT WEEK.

2. PLANE, A BALAIR DC-6, WILL SPEND FOUR DAYLIGHT HOURS ON GROUND AT PORT HARCOURT, HAVING FLOWN BASEL, GENEVA, TRIPOLI, FERNANDO PO. RETURNS SAME ROUTE.

3. CARGO WILL BE SEVEN TONS MEDICINE. ONE DOCTOR AND ONE PHARMACIST GOING IN, WILL STAY IN EAST BUT NOT IN FIXED POSITION AS WAS OLD ICRC TEAM AT ACHI HOSPITAL. (COMMENT:

PAGE 3 RUTALS 6718CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
THIS APPARENTLY RECOGNITION FMG GROUND AND ESPECIALLY AIR ATTACK CAPABILITIES MAKE IT WISER BE MOBILE.)

GP3: MATHEWS

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XR POL 18 NIGERIA
POL 15 NIGERIA

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, CIA 04, GPM 03, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01,
SC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, AID 28, IO 13, RSR 01, 141 W

R 151230Z FEB 68
FM AMCONSUL KADUNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 635
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS 1347
AMEMBASSY LONDON 285
DIA
CINCSRIKE/CINCMCAFSA
AMCONSUL IBADAN 367

C O N F I D E N T I A L KADUNA 740

SUBJECT: BENUE-PLATEAU STATE GOVERNOR COMMENTS ON THE
WAR AND NIGERIAN UNITY

1. DURING CONVERSATION WITH EMBASSY AND CONSULATE OFFICERS,
J.D. GOMWALK, MILGOV BENUE-PLATEAU STATE SAID FMG COULD NOT
ACCEPT LATEST OJUKWU PLOY FOR UNCONDITIONAL ARMISTICE SINCE
QUESTION BIAFRAN SECESSION NOT NEGOTIABLE. GOMWALK SEEMED
TO FEAR THAT OJUKWU COULD PLAY THEME OF CESSATION OF FIGHTING

PAGE 2 RUTAKA 740KK C O N F I D E N T I A L
TO DETRIMENT OF FMG IN WESTERN PRESS. IN OBVIOUS REFERENCE
TO RECENT VISIT BRITISH COMMONWEALTH SECRETARY, SAID "WE
DO NOT NEED SYMPATHY FROM OUR SO-CALLED FRIENDS, BUT RATHER
MOVE ON THEIR PART TO DISSUADE OJUKWU FROM CONTINUING
FIGHTING." GOMWALK SAID FMG WILLING NEGOTIATE ON ANY TERMS
SHORT OF SECESSION, INCLUDING RESIGNATION OF GOWON AND CON-
SIDERABLE DEGREE STATE SOVEREIGNTY WHICH HE THOUGHT MIGHT

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BE INEVITABLE. HE SAID OJUKWU WAS AMBITIOUS AND CLEVER MAN WHO ONLY WANTED TO TAKE OVER ALL NIGERIA AND ALL HIS MOVES POINTED TOWARD THAT END. IBOS ARE PRONE FOLLOW LEADERS REGARDLESS OF THEIR PERSONAL SHORTCOMINGS AS IN CASE OF AZIKWE WHO WAS OBVIOUSLY ENGAGED IN CORRUPT PRATICES.

2. GOMWALK SAW CREATION OF STATES AS ONLY WAY TO SAVE NIGERIA. DOMINATION BY MONOLITHIC NORTH HAD BROUGHT ON CRISIS, BUT IN FUTURE, PEOPLE MUST BE ASSURED THAT LEADER FROM ANY STATE COULD BECOME CHIEF EXECUTIVE IN LAGOS. HE ADMITTED THAT MORE STATES WOULD BE FORMED INCLUDING CREATION TWO IBO STATES, TWO WESTERN STATES AND SPLIT OF NORTH-EAST STATE. HE DID NOT THINK TOTAL WOULD EXCEED SIXTEEN STATES,

PAGE 3 RUTAKA 740KK C O N F I D E N T I A L
HOWEVER.

3. ALTHOUGH GOVERNOR SAW IBOS CRUMBLING UNDER FMG MILITARY PRESSURE, HE SAID IT WAS RIDICULOUS TO ASSUME THAT CUTTING OFF EXTERNAL SOURCES OF SUPPLY TO EAST WOULD WIN WAR SINCE GUERRILLA FIGHTING COULD CONTINUE. AVERAGE NIGERIAN CAN LIVE OFF LAND AND YJCISM ENGENDERED BY OJUKWU CAN LEAD IBOS TO CONTUNUED GUERRILLA RESISTANCE.

4. IN SHARP CONTRAST WITH COMPLAINTS HEARD IN KADUNA AND KANO THAT FMG NOT PROVIDING GUIDANCE TO STATES, GOMWALK SAID THIS WAS FUNCTION OF NORTHERN STATES INTERIM ADMIN. ISTRATIVE COUNCIL AND THAT AFTER MARCH 31, STATES WOULD MOVE RAPIDLY TO ASSERT THEIR OWN POWER WITHOUT TOO MUCH INTERFERENCE FROM LAGOS. ALTHOUGH HE THOUGHT PROLONGATION OF FIGHTING WOULD KEEP MILITARY IN POWER BEYOND 1969, HE HOPED FOR EARLY AGREEMENT ON CONSTITUTION AND RETURN TO CIVILIAN RULE. IN MEANTIME, HE ADMITTED FMG COULD PUSH FOR NEEDED REFORMS BY FIAT WITHOUT COMPROMISES WITH POLITICIANS.

PAGE 4 RUTAKA 740KK C O N F I D E N T I A L

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5. COMMENT: GOVERNOR GOMWALK'S PRESENTATION OF NIGERIAN CASE AGAINST BIAFRA WAS IMPASSIONED AND REASONABLE. COMING FROM MAN WHO IS REPORTEDLY CLOSE TO GOWON AND IS FELLOW ANGAS TRIBESMAN, IT COULD BE REFLECTION OF GOWON'S CURRENT REACTIONS AND FRUSTRATION WITH OJUKWU WHO WAS PAINTED AS THE SINGLE "BETE NOIRE" IN IMPASSE. GOMWALK SAID AT ONE POINT IN CONVERSATION THAT AT OUTSET OF GOWON'S RISE TO POWER HE WAS CONSIDERED AS WEAK MAN, BUT THAT GOWON HAD PROVED TO BE STRONG LEADER WITH MIND OF HIS WON WHO COULD NOT BE SWAYED IN HIS DETERMINATION TO REUNITE NIGERIA.
GP=4

STOKES.

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P 04, RSC 01, SC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, NSA 02, AID 28, TGA 02,

ACDA 16, COM 08, INT 06, TRSY 08, CU 04, GDP 01, NIC 01, RSR 01, /208 W

P R 151200Z FEB 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9378
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA 1575
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 380
AMEMBASSY COTONOU 652
AMEMBASSY DARESSALAAM 116
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA 557
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR 7
AMEMBASSY FT LAMY 591
AMEMBASSY LONDON 2080
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA 706
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 46
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI 20
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY 899
AMEMBASSY PARIS 774
AMEMBASSY ROME 77
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE 9
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 1031
USUN NEWYORK 235

USMISSION GENEVA 110
AMCONSUL IBADAN UNN
AMCONSUL KADUNA 2170
DIA
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SUBJ: NIGERIAN FOREIGN POLICY STATEMENT

REF: LAGOS 6666; 6702 (NOTAL); LONDON 6368; LAGOS 6716

1. IN POLICY SPEECH AT UNIVERSITY LAGOS FEB. 14, ARIKPO
DEFINED FMG POLICY AS OCM OF "NON-ALIGNMENT" AND FRIENDSHIP
WITH ALL WHO RESPECT (1) NIGERIAN TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY AND

(2) AFRICANS RIGHT RULE SELVES. SAID FMG HAD NO TERRITORIAL

PAGE 3 RUTALS 6717CC C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
AMBITIONS, NO DESIRE INTERFERE OTHER COUNTRIES, NOR WISH
BECOME INVOLVED COLD WAR ISSUES. RECALLED FMG OPPOSITION
DISCUSSION NIGERIAN DOMESTIC SITUATION AT UN, "EVEN BY
FRIENDLY AFRICAN COUNTRIES" AND THAT OAU RES, EVEN THOUGH
IT SUPPORTED FMG AND CONDEMNED SECESSION, HAD NOT BEEN USED
BY FMG TO REQUEST HELP WHICH OAU RES IMPLIED.

2. AFTER NOTING NO GOVT. HAD RECOGNIZED OR GIVEN OVERT
SUPPORT REBELS, ARIKPO SAID PRIVATE INTERESTS CAUSED "COM-
PLICATION." OIL COMPANIES FOR EXAMPLE WERE INTERNATIONAL
EMPIRES WITH GREAT INFLUENCE ON THEIR GOVERNMENTS. SOME HAD
MADE MONEY AVAILABLE REBELS; NOTHING FMG COULD DO NOW, BUT
"AT PROPER TIME WE WILL EXTRACT OUR POUND OF FLESH."

3. MERCENARIES WERE ANOTHER "PRIVATE" AREA WHERE SOME
FOREIGN GOVTS REALLY UNABLE CONTROL CITIZENS; OTHERS WINKED.
ARIKPO SAID STUDENTS BE GLAD KNOW FMG ORDERS WERE NOT TAKE
ANY WHITE MERCENARIES AS PRISONERS BUT "SHOOT THEM ALL"
WHICH PRODUCED DESK-THUMPING ROAR OF APPROVAL.

4. ON ARMS SUPPLY, ARIKPO SAID FMG WENT FIRST "TRADITIONAL

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PAGE 4 RUTALS 6717CC C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
SUPPLIERS" ARMS, AND, WHEN TURNED DOWN, WENT TO "UNFAMILIAR
MARKETS." BRITISH "HAVE SEEN MISTAKE" AND NOW COOPERATE
AMERICANS DO NOT. THERE NO "IDEOLOGICAL CONTENT IN REBEL-
LION" BUT WHEN TRADITIONAL FRIENDS WRONG YOU, TELL THEM SO.
FMG WISHES KEEP OLD FRIENDS WHILE GAINING NEW ONES. ARIKPO
REJECTED IDEA NIGERIA BECOMING "SOVIET SATELLITE."

5. DURING TALK, AND IN RESPONSE QUESTION, ARIKPO MENTIONED
TANZANIA AS COUNTRY HAVE SHOWN "SYMPATHY" REBELS AND RE-
CEIVED THEIR ENVOYS. FMG NOT CLOSING MISSION DAR DESPITE
IMPLIED PROVOCATION.

6. FINAL QUERY ABOUT "DESPICABLE ROLE" OF BRITISH AND US,
AND WHY FMG STILL SO FAVORABLY DISPOSED. ARIKPO SAID NIGERIA
SURVIVED SHOCKS OF CIVIL WAR AND RESULTANT ECONOMIC DISLOCA-
TION. THIS SURPRISED MANY "TRADITIONAL FRIENDS" WHO THOUGHT
FMG WOULD DISINTEGRATE, BUT THIS NOT SO. IF FOREIGNERS NOW
PERCEIVE UNDERLYING ELEMENTS NIGERIAN UNITY, IT ONLY RECOGNI-
TION FACTS OF NIGERIAN POLITICAL LIFE. ARIKPO ENDED WITH COM-
MENT THAT DESPITE OUTSIDE ACADEMIC, JOURNALISTIC, AND EVEN

PAGE 5 RUTALS 6717CC C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
SOME GOVERNMENTS' BELIEF NIGERIA TOO HETEROGENEOUS TO SUR-
VIVE TRIBAL PRESSURES, NIGERIA COULD BE UNITED STRONG NATION.

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INFO EUR 15, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 03, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10,
P 04, RSC 01, SC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SAH 03, AID 28, IO 13, SRI 01,
ORM 03, RSR 01, /144 W

R 151600Z FEB 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9382
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON 2082
DIA
CINCSSTRIKE/CINCEAFSA
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA 46

S E C R E T LAGOS 6724

SUBJ: FMG REACTION TO CW SYG PROPOSALS:

1. BRITISH HC HUNT DISCUSSED REACTIONS TO CW PROPOSALS
FOR NIGERIAN SETTLEMENT WITH EXIAFF COMMISSIONER ARIKPO
FEB. 14. HIS REPORT TO CO FOLLOWS.

2. "I HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO OBTAIN AN APPOINTMENT WITH GOWON,
WHO I SUSPECT MAY BE RELUCTANT TO TALK UNTIL HE HAS MADE
UP HIS MIND MORE CLEARLY, AND AT HIS REQUEST I SAW ARIKPO

PAGE 2 RUTALS 6724CC S E C R E T
THIS MORNING. HE HIMSELF OPENED BY EXPRESSING DISQUIET
AT THE REPORTS FROM LONDON PURPORTING TO GIVE DETAILS OF
ARNOLD SMITH'S PROPOSALS, WHICH WERE MISLEADING AND WERE
CAUSING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SOME EMBARRASSMENT, PARTICULARLY
SINCE SMITH HAD PROMISED THAT HE WOULD NOT REVEAL

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DETAILS OF HIS DISCUSSIONS IN LAGOS. HE SAID THAT MUCH OF ARNOLD SMITH'S PACKAGE BORE OJUKWU'S STAMP AND WOULD IN NO CIRCUMSTANCES BE ACCEPTABLE TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT. THE LATTER'S PRIMARY CONDITIONS REMAINED THE ACCEPTANCE OF ONE NIGERIA AND THE TWELVE STATES.

3. "THIS OPENING ENABLED ME TO SPEAK AS ANTICIPATED IN PARA 3 OF MYTEL UNDER REF AND ON LINES OF PARA 5 OF YRTEL.

4. "IN VIEW OF ARNOLD SMITH'S REPORT OF HIS ATTITUDE TOWARDS A COMMONWEALTH PRESENCE, I ALSO ASKED ARIKPO HIS VIEWS ON THIS. HE SAID THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WERE QUITE PREPARED TO CONSIDER, AT AN APPROPRIATE TIME, WHETHER THEY MIGHT INVITE COMMONWEALTH FORCES TO ASSIST

PAGE 3 RUTALS 6724CC S E C R E I R
IN ENSURING THE SECURITY OF THE IBOS. HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT FEDERAL TROOPS COULD BE RELIED UPON TO ENSURE THAT THERE WERE NO ATROCITIES AND SAID THAT POLICE OF IBO ORIGIN WOULD HAVE A MAJOR ROLE TO PLAY IN RE-ESTABLISHING ORDER. HOWEVER, HE REALIZED THAT IBO FEARS OF MASSACRE WERE A REALITY AND HAD TO BE COUNTERED IF THERE WAS TO BE A SENSIBLE PEACE-MAKING. A COMMONWEALTH FORCE COULD HELP TO THIS END". GP-3. MATHEWS.

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*LAGOS 6716
 2-15-68*

PAGE 01 LAGOS 06716 151528Z

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 ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, EA 10, NEA 13, IO 13, NSA 02, SAH 03, CIAE 00, GPM 03, H 02,
 INR 07, L 03, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, AID 28,
 SR 01, ORM 03, RSR 01, 169 W

P R 151150Z FEB 68
 FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9377
 INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA 1574
 AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 379
 AMEMBASSY COTONOU 651
 AMEMBASSY DARESSALAAM 115
 AMEMBASSY FT LAMY 590
 AMEMBASSY KINSHASA 556
 AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR 6
 RUDTCR/AMEMBASSY LONDON 2079
 AMEMBASSY MONROVIA 705
 AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 45
 AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI 19
 AMEMBASSY NIAMEY 898
 AMEMBASSY PARIS 773
 AMEMBASSY ROME 76
 RUMJSN/AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE 8
 AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 1030
 USUN NEWYORK 234

6716

USMISSION GENEVA 109
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 AMCONSUL KADUNA 2169
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SUBJ: COMMISSIONER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DENIES VALIDITY ALL
REPORTS COMMONWEALTH "PEACE FORCE" FOR NIGERIA

REF: LAGOS 6666: 6702 (NOTAL) LONDON 6368 (NOTAL)

1. COMMISSIONER (READ MINISTER) EXTERNAL AFFAIRS ARIKPO
EVENING FEB. 14 DELIVERED SPEECH AT UNIVERSITY LAGOS TO 250
STUDENTS ON SUBJECT "NIGERIAN CIVIL WAR DIPLOMACY".

2. AFTER READING FROM KEATLEY ARTICLE IN GUARDIAN, AND

PAGE 3 RUTALS 6716CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
CITING LONDON TIMES AND BBC ARIKPO FLATLY CALLED ALL SUCH
REPORTS "ABSOLUTELY FALSE". SAID COMMONWEALTH SYG SMITH HAD
COME NIGERIA AT OWN REQUEST AND ON SHORT NOTICE. ARIKPO SURE
SMITH NOT INSTIGATOR PRESS STORIES, WHICH THEREFORE MISCHI-
EVOUS SPECULATION OR WISHFUL THINKING. ARIKPO DENIED HE
HAD GONE LONDON RECENTLY SEE REBEL ENVOY OKPARA.

3. SAYING HE LEAVING SHORTLY FOR INDIA, MALAYSIA, SINGAPORE,
AND OTHER COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES, ARIKPO SAID HE NOT RPT NOT
GOING TO OBTAIN PEACE-KEEPING TROOPS, BUT AT THEIR REQUEST
TO EXPLAIN NIGERIAN SITUATION.

4. FMG NOT RPT NOT UNRESPONSIVE EXPRESSIONS OUTSIDE CONCERN.
AS RESULT MISSIONARY, JOURNALIST, FOREIGN GOVT AND OWN CONCERNS,
FMG HAD "EASED" MILITARY PRESSURES LATE 1967 AFTER CAPTURING
CALABAR AND ENUGU, IN HOPE REBELS WOULD NEGOTIATE. IMPORTANT
REMEMBER THIS, BECAUSE FMG BELIEVES MUCH OF PRESENT "PEACE
OFFENSIVE" IS REALLY REBELS EFFORT TO AGAIN REDUCE MILI-
TARY PRESSURES, "ESPECIALLY IN IBO AREAS".

5. WHILE IBOS ENTITLED GENUINE ASSURANCES PERSONAL SAFETY

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PAGE 4 RUTALS 6716CC C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
AT END REBELLION, SUCH ASSURANCES MUST BE BASED ON THEIR
PRIOR ACCEPTANCE FEDERAL SYSTEM IN NIGERIA AND NO SECESSION.

6. FOLLOWING TALK ONE QUESTIONER LIKENED SITUATION TO TWO
ANGRY BROTHERS QUARRELING. IN SUCH CASES, WHAT WRONG WITH
OUTSIDERS TRYING STOP FIGHT? ARIKPO IN EFFECT SAID OUTSIDERS
ALWAYS TENDED TAKE SIDES DESPITE INTENTIONS, GOT BLAMED LATER
AND IT ALWAYS BETTER ANYWAY LET PEOPLE SOLVE OWN DOMESTIC
PROBLEMS. AUDIENCE REACTION TO THIS FAVORABLE.

7. COMMENT: MAIN THRUST ARIKPO'S TALK WAS DENIAL STORIES
CONCERNING CW PEACE FORCE, BUT ALSO NOTEWORTHY FOR CAREFUL
BALANCING ACT BETWEEN "TRADITIONAL FRIENDS" (READ US AND UK)
AND "NEW FRIENDS" (SOVIET BLOC). HIS REITERATION OF
FMG POLICY TOWARD REBELS WAS COUCHED IN TERMS WHICH SHOWED
LITTLE OR NO "GIVE". ARIKPO PERSONALLY WAS RELAXED, HUMOROUS
AT TIMES, AND HE OFTEN RECEIVED FAVORABLE RESPONSE FROM HIS
BASICALLY HAWKISH AUDIENCE. LAGOS RADIO AND PAPERS FEB. 15
PLAY UP ARIKPO'S SPEECH UNDER HEADLINES "ARIKPO
BLASTS FOREIGN PAPERS" AND "12 STATES ONLY BASIS FOR TALKS," AND
"BBC, MISSIONARIES & PEACE IN NIGERIA." EXEMPT MATHEWS

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P 04, RSC 01, SC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SAH 03, IO 13, RSR 01, SRI 01,

ORM 03, / 116. W

R 141740Z FEB 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9370
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA 1573
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 378
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA 555
AMEMBASSY LONDON 2077
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA 704
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY 897
AMEMBASSY PARIS 772
CINCSRIKE/CINCEAFSA
AMCONSUL KADUNA 2166
AMCONSUL IBADAN 1631

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 6702

REF: LAGOS 6666

PAGE 2 RUTALS 6702CC C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
SUBJ: FURTHER NIGERIAN REACTION TO COMMONWEALTH PEACE INITIATIVE

1. NEW NIGERIAN OF FEBRUARY 13 IN LEADING NEWS STORY REPORTED
COMMONWEALTH INITIATIVE AS DESCRIBED IN GUARDIAN STORY BY
PATRICK KEATLEY (LONDON 6368) AND FOR SECOND DAY RUNNING
CARRIED EDITORIAL ON SUBJECT. EDITORIAL EXPRESSED SURPRISE

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THAT TALKS ARE SAID TO BE ABOUT CEASEFIRE. "CEASEFIRE DOES NOT ALWAYS MEAN PEACE. WHAT THIS COUNTRY DESERVES IS PEACE AND NOT MAKESHIFT ARRANGEMENTS". EDITORIAL SAYS TALK OF "COMMONWEALTH FORCE TO POLICE BATTLE ZONE" IS MOST DISTURBING. IT SUMS UP BY SAYING, "PEACE WITH UNITY FOR NIGERIA AND HONOURABLE PLACE FOR THE IBOS--YES. CEASEFIRE TO ENABLE REBELLION REBUILD ITS SCATTERED FORCES--NO. FOREIGN TROOPS--CERTAINLY NO!

2. NEWSPAPERS IN LAGOS AND IBADAN SILENT ON SUBJECT OF COMMONWEALTH INITIATIVE FEBRUARY 14. RADIO IN LAGOS AND KADUNA CONTINUE BE CRITICAL OF "PEACEKEEPING FORCE" BUT NOT OF IDEA OF COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT INITIATING NEGOTIATIONS. LOOKING FORWARD SETTLEMENT. DETAILS REPORTED FOR VOA IN

PAGE 3 RUTALS 6702CC C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
LAGOS 6694.
DECON FEB 15 1969 MATHEWS.

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RSC 01, SC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, IO 13, RSR 01, AID 28, 137 W

R 141625Z FEB 68
FM AMCONSUL KADUNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 634
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS 1346
AMEMBASSY LONDON 284
AMCONSUL IBADAN 366
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HASSAN KATSINA COMMENTS ON COMMONWEALTH PEACE INITIATIVE.

I. UNDER BOLD HEADLINE QTE COL. HASSAN SAYS THERE WON'T BE ANOTHER ABURI UNQTE, NEW NIGERIAN OF FEB 14 REPORTS COMMENTS OF COL. HASSAN USMAN KATSINA ON ALLEGED COMMONWEALTH PEACE INITIATIVE. COL. HASSAN, WHO RETURNED KADUNA FEB 13 AFTER DAY'S TOUR OF MAKURDI AND ENUGU WAR FRONT, REPORTEDLY SAID:

PAGE 2 RUUDSLK 739KK UNCLAS

A. ANOTHER ABURI WOULD NOT BE REPETED AND FMG WOULD CONTINUE TASK OF CRUSHING OJUKWU REBELLION UNTIL OJUKWU CLIQUE CALL OFF THEIR WAR AGAINST THEIR OWN COUNTRY. THIS IS ONLY COURSE REBELS SHOULD CHOOSE TO PUT END TO SUFFERING OF MANY INNOCENT NIGERIANS.

B. EVERYONE IN NIGERIA WELCOMED PEACE, BUT QTE NOT ONE ON OJUKWU'S TERMS OF TREACHERY, NO MATTER UNDER WHAT CLOAK - WHETHER VIA THE NATO (SIC), THE UN, OR THE COMMONWEALTH UNQTE. COMMONWEALTH TROOPS,

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COL. HASSAN CONTINUED, WOULD NEVER COME TO NIGERIA AND OJUKWU WOULD NOT BE GIVEN ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY (READ ABURI TYPE DISCUSSIONS) TO CARRY OUT HIS QTE TREACHEROUS INTENTIONS UNQTE.

2. NEW NIGERIAN REPORT CLOSED BY NOTING THAT COL. HASSAN HAD TRAVELLED FROM MAKURDI TO ENUGU WITH MR. UKPABI ASIKA, ADMINISTRATOR FOR ENUGU AND ANOTHER LIBERATED AREAS OF CENTRAL EASTERN STATE.

3. COMMENT: FOR THIRD DAY RUNNING, ALLEGED COMMONWEALTH PEACE INITIATIVE RECEIVING STIFF-ARMED "NO" FROM LOCAL PUBLIC OPINION MAKERS. STOKES

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ACTION AF 15

INFO SS 10, GPM 03, EUR 08, INR 07, FILE 01, OPR 02, IO 03, RSC 01, RSR 01,

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FM USDAO/LAGOS NIGERIA
TO DIA PRIORITY
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CINCLANT
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DA
AMCONSUL KADUNA
AMCONSUL IBADAN
DA GRNC

C O N F I D E N T I A L 0053 FEB 68. SGD: HALLIGAN. COUNTRY: NIGERIA.
SUBJECT: UPDATE CURRENT FMG/EASTERN MIL SITUATION. DIA FOR
DIACO; CINCSTRIKE FOR STRJ2-C; DA FOR ACIS.

1. SUMMARY: MESSAGE INDICATES REBEL CLAIMS RECAPTURE NSUKKA AND
LARGE FED LOSSES THEREAT WITHOUT SUBSTANCE. REPORTS CAPTURE AWKA
BY FED FORCES THIRTEEN FEB AND INDICATED AWKA THREATENED BY TWO
BRIGADE FORCE. INDICATES FED ATTEMPT CLEAR ALL REBEL FORCES EAST
CROSS RIVER. DETAILS FED AIR RAID PORT HARCOURT SEVEN FEB REVEALED.
LATEST STATUS NIGERIN NAVY REPORTED.

RECORDED BY 151/B

PAGE 2 RUTALS 6703CC C O N F I D E N T I A L

2. INFO AVAIL FROM SOURCES ARMY HQ, AS WELL AS FROM EXPAT SOURCES
EMBASSY OFFICERS WHO WERE AT NSUKKA 08 FEB, INDICATES CURRENT REBEL
CLAIMS RECAPTURE NSUKKA WITH FMG LOSSES IN "THOUSANDS"
ERRONEOUS. IN FACT, REBEL ATTACK LAUNCHED NSUKKA APPROX 080330AFEB

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BY LAND ROVER BORNE RAIDING FORCE APPROX ONE HUNDRED FIFTY MEN. RAIS INITIATED BY 81MM MORTAR BARRAGE FROM THREE HOME MADE MORTARS (WHICH LATER CAPTURED BY FMG FORCES ALONG WITH STORE 81MM MORTAR ROUNDS WHICH SHOWED CLEAR EVIDENCE HAVING BEEN DUG UP FROM UNDER GROUND CACHE). MORTARING ALERTED GARRISON (FED COMMANDER SAID IF REBEL FORCE WOULD HAVE COME IN WITHOUT "ANNOUNCING SELVES" THEY WOULD HAVE DONE MORE DAMAGE TO NON-ALERT GARRISON) AND SUBSTANTIAL BATTLE ENSUED. BY NOON RAIDING PARTY HAD BEEN DISPERSED OR KILLED. FED COMMANDER SAID RAID WELL PLANNED BUT POORLY EXECUTED. ARMY SOURCES BELIEVE RAIDING PARTY FROM REBL FIFTY SEVEN BRIGADE ORIGINATED VICINITY ABAKALIKI FROM WHECE USED ROUTE EFFIUM (NORTH ABAKALIKI) THENCE WEST VIA EHA AMUFU, IKEM, MBUEHA, ALUMONA, NSUKKA. SAME SORCE ALSO HIT FED GARRISON VILLAGE UKEHE (0629N0725E) NORTH OF ENUGU ROUTE THREE, 09 FEB, WITH NO SUCCESS AND FURTHER LOSS PERSONNEL AND VEHICLES. ARMY SOURCES BELIEVE REMAINS RAIDING PARTY EITHER BACK AT OR ENROUTE ABAKALIKI AREA.

PAGE 3 RUTALS 6703CC C O N F I D E N T I A L

3. FOLLOWING AVAIL FROM USUALLY RELIABLE SOURCES ARMY HQ AS OF 14 FEB.

A. SECOND DIV AWKA AREA: SOURCES CLAIM AWKA FELL TO FED FORCES. EIGHT BRIGADE, 13 FEB. FED FORCES HAVE CONTINUED THROUGH AWKA AND ARE ON ROAD NETWORK SOUTH OF TOWN WITH NEXT POSSIBLE OBJECTIVE TOWN ORLU (0548N0702E) APPROX THIRTY FOUR ROAD MILES SOUTH AWKA AND TWENTY FOUR ROAD MILES NORTH OWERRI.

B. FIRST DIV ENUGU SECTOR: ELEMENTS FED FIRST BRIGADE CONTINUE SLOW BUT STEADY PROGRESS SOUTH ALONG ESCARPMENT UDI TO AWGU WITH OBJECTIVE CUT ROAD RUNNING NORTHWEST FROM AWGU TO ACHI (0608N0721E) BEHIND REBL FIFTY NINE BRIGADE WHICH DEFENDING TO NORTH ALONG AXIS THIS ROAD AGAINST FED TEN BRIGADE, TWO DIV, WHICH MOVING SOUTH ON SAME ROUTE FROM OJI RIVER TOWARD AWGU VIA ACHI. SOURCES BELIEVE IT PROBABLE TEN BRIGADE ALREADY SOUTH ACHI. (IF THIS SO, THIS WOULD PUT REBL FIFTY NINE BRIGADE IN PRECARIOUS POSITION BEING ON ROAD BETWEEN FED BNS TO FRONT (NORTH) AND REAR WHICH IS RUGGED HILL TERRITORY. CHOICE WOULD SEEM BE EFEND IN SEVERAL DIRECTIONS ON HIGH GROUND TO REAR (WITH POSSIBILITY FED FORCES ALREADY ASTRIDE HIGH GROUND) OR WITHDRAW SOUTH ALONG SECONDARY ROAD NET WORK (WEST OF EXCARPMENT UDI/AWGU) IN DIRECTION TOWN.

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PAGE 4 RUTALS 6703CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
OKIGWI (0550N0722E). (DEVELOPING SITUATION WITH RESPECT AWGU WOULD
APPEAR PUT THIS REBEL ARMY HQ TOWN IN SERIOUS POSITION WITH MIN
TWO BRIGADES (ONE AND TEN) ON ROAD MOVING SOUTH TOWARD IT. FIRST
BRIGADE HAS THREE COLUMNS MOVING ON AWGU. ONE ON ESCARPMENT AS
INDICATED. ONE ON ROUTE THREE APPROX PARALLEL WITH ESCARPMENT
COLUMN. ONE MOVING SOUTH ASTRIDE RAIL LINE TO EAST ROUTE THREE
AND NOW BELIEVED IN VICINITY VILLAG NOMEH (0610N0735E) APPROX
FIFTEEN MILES NORTHEAST AWGU.
C. THIRD DIV SOUTHEASTERN SECTOR: FED COLUMN WHICH TOOK IKOT
OKPORO FERRY CROSSING ON CROSS RIVER NOW MOVING GENERALLY NORTH
AND EAST CROSS RIVER TOWARDS TOWN OBUBRA (0605N0820E) WHICH HQ
REBEL FIFTY FIVE BRIGADE. THIS PART FMG ATTEMPT CLEAR ALL
REBEL FORCES EAST CROSS RIVER.

4. NIGERIAN AIR FORCE:

A. EMBASSY OFFICER WITH EXPERT KNOWLEDGE THIS AREA SAW TWO
IL-28S KANO AIRFIELD PERIOD NINE THROUGH ELEVEN FEB. NO TAIL
MARKINGS CARRIED ON CRAFT, BUT NOSES COVERED WITH TARPS. POSITIVE
IDENTIFICATION. TEN EGYPTIANS AT KANO CONNECTED WITH AIRCRAFT. ALSO

PAGE 5 RUTALS 6703CC C O N F I D E N T I A L

FOUR EUROPEAN TYPES ON HAND. ALL FOUR SPOKE AFRIKAANS AND THREE
OF FOUR SPOKE ENGLISH. FOUR MIGS AT FIELD SAME PERIOD. ON 07 FEB
SAME SOURCE SAW ONE HUNTING PROVOST AT KADUNA FIELD. SAME SOURCE
SAW OPERATIONAL VAN TYPE SMALL DISH RADAR GEAR AT KADUNA. UNABLE
IDENTIFY FROM MATERIAL AVAIL HERE.

B. NAF AND ARMY SOURCES CLAIM IL-28 RAID ON PORT HARCOURT 07 FEB
DID EXTENSIVE DAMAGE LIGHTING, CONTROL, COMM, TERMINAL, AND STRIP
FACILITIES. (THERE INDICATIONS FIELD MAY VERY WELL HAVE BEEN
INOPERABLE PERIOD 07 FEB TO DATE). POSSIBILITY TWO SECOND DELAY
TYPE BOMBS BEING USED ON RUNWAY. OTHER ORDNANCE USED CAUSED
HEAVY FIRES IN AREA. PILOTS CLAIM REBEL AIR DEFENSES PORT HARCOURT
INCLUDE "SIX RADAR CONTROLLED AA GUNS" CALIBER NOT SPECIFIED.

5. NAVAL AND RELATED ACTIVITY:

A. MASTER NIGERIAN NAVY CHARTER VESSEL OPUSO (EX WARIGI) TOLD

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DATT 14 FEB THAT ON RECENT RUN CALABAR WITH FIVE HUNDRED FMG TROOPS ABOARD HE WAS HIT IN CALABAR CHANNEL BY ONE ROUND 105MM ARTY FIRE FROM ORON. APPROX TEN ROUNDS FIRED WITH ONE HIT IN SUPERSTRUCTURE WHICH DID SUPERFICIAL DAMAGE AND INJURED NO ONE. MASTER CRITICAL NIGERIAN NAVY ESCORT WHICH CAME OUT TO MEET HIM

PAGE 6 RUTALS 6703CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
AT ENTRANCE CROSS RIVER CHANNEL. HE SAID "SHE MET MEI ALRIGHT, BUT SHE OUTRAN ME TO CALABAR". ON MORNING FOLLOWING DAY, MASTER, ON WAY BACK DOWN CHANNEL, SAW NIGERIAN AIR FORCE ATTACK ON ORON AREA WITH "HEAVY FIRES RESULTING". HE TOOK NO NEW FIRE ON WAY OUT. HE PLANS ANOTHER RUN THIS WEEKEND TO CALABAR BUT HOPES FOR "BETTER ESCORT PT EEOTECTION FROM NIGERIAN NAVY. AS HE HAS RAISED MATTER WITH ADMIRAL WEY AND OTHER SENIOR NAVAL OFFICERS WHO PROMISE BETTER PROTECTION IN FUTURE.
B. CURRENT STATUS NIGERIAN NAVY: FRIGATE NIGERIA, PATROL CRAFT OGOJA, SDB'S BENIN AND ENUGU, AUXILIARY KWA RIVER AT SEA. ALL OTHERS NAVAL BASE APAPA. GP-3.

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RSR 01, IO 13, AID 28, /105 W

R 131309Z FEB 68
FM AMCONSUL KADUNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 632
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS 1339
AMEMBASSY LONDON 283
AMCONSUL IBADAN 354
DIA UNN

UNCLAS KADUNA 731

SUBJECT: NEW NIGERIAN COMMENTS ON POSSIBLE COMMONWEALTH PEACE INITIATIVE

1. UNDER BOLD HEADLINE TITLED QTE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT
RESTATES ITS STAND: REBELS MUST GIVE UP SECESSION, UNQTE,
NEW NIGERIAN OF FEBRUARY 13 REPORTED FMG OFFICIALS IN
LAGOS AS STRESSING THAT FORMER EASTERN REGION MUST
RENOUNCE SECESSION AND ACCEPT TWELVE STATE STRUCTURE
BEFORE ANY TALK OF CEASEFIRE POSSIBLE. OFFICIALS
REPORTEDLY WERE COMMENTING ON ALLEGED FRESH COMMONWEALTH

PAGE 2 RUDSLK 731KK UNCLAS
PEACE INITIATIVE AIMED AT SENDING COMMONWEALTH MILITARY
FORCE TO POLICE TRUCE IN NIGERIA WHILE PERMANENT SOLUTION
TO CONFLICT IS SOUGHT. ARTICLE STATES THAT NEW
COMMONWEALTH INITIATIVE BELIEVED CONVEYED TO FMG BY
COMMONWEALTH SECRETARY-GENERAL ARNOLD SMITH BUT THAT THERE
HAD BEEN NO CHANGE IN GENERAL GOWON'S POSITION THAT

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REBELS MUST RENOUNCE SECESSION BEFORE TRUCE POSSIBLE.

2. IN EDITORIAL OF FEBRUARY 12, NEW NIGERIAN DESCRIBED OBJECTIVES OF COMMONWEALTH SECRETARY-GENERAL ARNOLD SMITH AS LAUDABLE BUT FOUNDED ON QTE SHAKY ASSUMPTION UNQTE BASED ON OJUKWU'S LATEST SPEECH. EDITORIAL CONCLUDES:

A. OJUKWU SPEECH GIVES NO REPEAT NO BASIS FOR PEACE OTHER THAN THAT OF FMG RECOGNITION AND LEGALIZATION OF BIAFRAN SECESSION.

B. PEACE OFFENSIVE ON BEHALF OF OJUKWU APPEARS INITIATED BY FOREIGNERS AND DIRECTED FROM OUTSIDE

PAGE 3 RUDSLK 731KK UNCLAS
AND CANNOT BEAR ANY FRUITFUL RESULT

C. POSSIBLE IMPRESSION THAT COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT ASSOCIATED WITH PEACE HOAX COULD MILITATE AGAINST ANY GOOD ROLE IT COULD PLAY IN FUTURE.

D. SUGGESTION THAT COMMONWEALTH PEACE-KEEPING FORCE COME INTO NIGERIA IS QTE NEOCOLONIALIST SUBTLETY THAT CAN ONLY SERVE REBELS, THEIR BACKERS, OR THOSE FOREIGN INTERESTS WHO, FOR OTHER REASONS, WANT PEACE AT ANY PRICE ... TO ACCEPT FOREIGN INTERVENTION IS TO INTERNATIONALIZE THE CRISIS. EVEN THE COMMONWEALTH IS STILL AN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION UNQTE.

3. IN SECOND EDITORIAL FEBRUARY 13, NEW NIGERIAN COMMENTS ON REPORTED COMMONWEALTH NEGOTIATIONS FOR CEASEFIRE AND U.K. GUARDIAN NEWSPAPER STORY THAT STAGE SET FOR CEASEFIRE WITH COMMONWEALTH MILITARY FORCE TO POLICE CEASEFIRE. NEW NIGERIAN COMMENTS THAT:

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PAGE 03 KADUNA 00731 151226Z

PAGE 4 RUDSLK 731KK UNCLAS

A. CEASEFIRE DOES NOT ALWAYS MEAN PEACE AND NIGERIA DESERVES PEACE.

B. SO-CALLED COMMONWEALTH FORCE TO POLICE CEASEFIRE IS DISTURBING AND FMG SHOULD BE WARY THIS POINT SINCE GUARDIAN NEWSPAPER CLOSELY CONNECTED WITH REBELS.

C. ANY FOREIGN SCHEMES TO LULL COUNTRY INTO FALSE EXPECTATIONS SHOULD BE AVOIDED, THE EDITORIAL CONTINUED.

D. EDITORIAL CONCLUDED: QTE PEACE WITH UNITY FOR NIGERIA AND HONORABLE PLACE FOR THE IBOS, YES. CEASEFIRE TO ENABLE REBELS TO REBUILD FORCES, NO. FOREIGN TROOPS? CERTAINLY NO. UNQTE. STOKES

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POL 27 BIAFRA NIGERIA
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PAGE 01 LAGOS 06666 131455Z

31
ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15,SSO 00,NSCE 00,USIE 00,CCO 00,IO 13,ACDA 16,SAH 03,
CIAE 00,DODE 00,GPM 03,H 02,INR 07,L 03,NSAE 00,NSC 10,P 04,
RSC 01,SC 01,SP 02,SS 20,AID 28,RSR 01,144-W

O R 131410Z FEB 68 ZFF4
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9352
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA 1571
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 377
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA 553
AMEMBASSY LONDON 2075
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA 702
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY 896
AMEMBASSY PARIS 770
CINCSRIKE CINCEAFSA
AMCONSUL IBADAN 1628
RUTAKA/AMCONSUL KADUNA 2160

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 6666

SUBJ: NIGERIAN REACTION TO COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT PEACE
INITIATIVE

PAGE 2 RUTALS 6666CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
REF: LAGOS 6631 LONDON 6368

1. BBC IN LAST TWO DAYS HAS CARRIED LONG SPECULATIVE
REPORTS ON EFFORTS OF COMMONWEALTH SEC GEN SMITH TO DEVELOP
PROPOSAL FOR ENDING NIGERIAN CIVIL WAR. THESE REPORTS, AS
WELL AS SPECULATION IN BRITISH PRESS AND EDITORIAL IN NEW
YORK TIMES FEBRUARY 12 (REPORTED BY RETUERS), HAVE NATURALLY

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PAGE 02 LAGOS 06666 131455Z

RECEIVED CONSIDERABLE ATTENTION IN GOVT AND PRIVATE CIRCLES IN NIGERIA.

2. INITIAL PUBLIC REACTION EXPRESSED IN PRESS IS GENERALLY AGAINST SUGGESTION OF INTRODUCING COMMONWEALTH PEACEKEEPING FORCE INTO NIGERIAN SITUATION. THERE IS ALSO RESENTMENT THAT FOREIGN PRESS IS TRYING PUSH NIGERIA TO CONFERENCE TABLE. EMBASSY HAS HEARD SIMILAR COMMENTS BY MIDDLE-LEVEL OFFICIALS WHO EVIDENTLY FEEL EFFORT BEING MADE TO INTERNATIONALIZE CRISIS."

3. CRITICAL EDITORIAL IN TRIBUNE OF FEBRUARY 12, REPORTED LAGOS REFTEL. NEW NIGERIAN EDITORIAL FEBRUARY 12 ALSO

PAGE 3 RUTALS 6666CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
CRITICAL. SAYS SMITH'S NEW INITIATIVE REPORTED TO BE BASED ON OJUKWU'S ADDRESS TO CONSULTATIVE ASSEMBLY AND COMMENTS, "NOWHERE IN THAT ADDRESS CAN ONE FIND A MANIFEST DESIRE FOR PEACE ON ANY BASIS OTHER THAN A FEDERAL GOVERNMENT RECOGNITION AND LEGALIZATION OF SECESSION. AT THE MOMENT, THE PEACE OFFENSIVE ON BEHALF OF OJUKWU APPEARS TO BE INITIATED BY FOREIGNERS AND DIRECTED FROM OUTSIDE. THIS CANNOT BEAR ANY FRUITFUL RESULT." EDITORIAL SUGGESTS THAT COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT MAY BE ALLOWING SELF "TO BE ASSOCIATED WITH A COLOSSAL PEACE HOAX." CALLS PEACEKEEPING FORCE "POSITIVELY DANGEROUS." "A NEO-COLONIALIST SUBTLETY THAT CAN ONLY SERVE REBELS AND THEIR BACKERS--OR THOSE FOREIGN INTERESTS WHO, FOR OTHER REASONS, WANT PEACE AT ANY PRICE. LASTING PEACE CAN ONLY BE CREATED BY NIGERIANS THEMSELVES. TO ACCEPT FOREIGN INTERVENTION IS TO INTERNATIONALIZE THE CRISIS."

4. SPECULATION, BOTH IN NIGERIA AND ABROAD, CENTERS ON COMMONWEALTH PEACEKEEPING FORCE AND GENERALLY FAILS TO SEE IT AS PART OF POSSIBLE OVERALL SETTLEMENT. EMBASSY FEARS

PAGE 4 RUTALS 6666CC C O N F I D E N T I A L

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THAT, AS RESULT EXTENSIVE PRESS AND RADIO SPECULATION,
GROUNDSWELL OF OPINION MAY BE BUILDING UP WHICH COULD
PREJUDICE ANY NEGOTIATIONS.

GP3. MATHEWS

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TR DEF 9-7 NIGERIA

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 06634 121754Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, CIAE 00, GPM 03, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04,
RSC 01, SC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, AID 28, ACDA 16, IO 13, RSR 01,
/153 W

R 121610Z FEB 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9336
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON 2074
DIA
CINCSSTRIKE/CINCMCAFSA
AMCONSUL KADUNA 2158
AMCONSUL IBADAN 1627

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 6634

SUBJ: BRITISH MERCENARIES IN NIGERIA

1. BIAFRAN RADIO AND SOME FOREIGN PRESS REPORTS IMPLY
MANY BRITISH MERCENARIES ARE IN NIGERIA. BRITISH HC
LAGOS ON FEBRUARY 9 SUBMITTED FACTUAL REPORT TO CO,
AS FOLLOWS:

2. "WE KNOW OF NO BRITISH MERCENARIES FIGHTING ON THE

PAGE 2 RUTALS 6634CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
GROUND EITHER FOR THE NIGERIAN ARMY OR FOR THE BIAFRAN
ARMY. THERE ARE HOWEVER A NUMBER OF BRITISH, RHODESIAN
AND SOUTH AFRICAN PILOTS FLYING FOR THE NIGERIAN AIR
FORCE. APART FROM THE SOUTH AFRICAN BONZO BOND WE HAVE
NODetails FROM OVERT SOURCES AND INDIVIDUALS CHANGE

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LAGOS 6634
27-12-68

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PAGE 02 LAGOS 06634 121754Z

WEEKLY. SOME OF THE PILOTS OF BIAFRAN AIRCRAFT SUPPLYING PORT HARCOURT ARE REPORTED TO BE RHODESIAN. ONE RHODESIAN PILOT, MALLOCH, AND FOUR BRITISH CREW MEMBERS ARE AT PRESENT DETAINED IN TOGO.

3. "THERE ARE THREE BRITISH EX-NAVAL OFFICERS ON CONTRACT TO THE NIGERIAN NAVY: COMMANDER RAWE, LIEUTENANT COMMANDER COOK AND LIEUTENANT COMMANDER DENHAM, WHO HAVE BEEN HERE FOR 14, 12 AND 4 YEARS RESPECTIVELY. A WARRANT OFFICER JAMES ON SECONDMENT FROM BRITISH ARMY VISITED NIGERIA FOR SHORT PERIOD LAST YEAR TO INSTRUCT NIGERIANS ON THE USE OF ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUNS. TWO WARRANT OFFICERS WHO WILL BE ATTACHED TO THE DEFENCE ADIVER'S STAFF IN A CIVILIAN CAPACITY WILL BE ARRIVING IN LAGOS AT THE END OF FEBRUARY TO PROVIDE DRIVING AND MAINTENANCE

PAGE 3 RUTALS 6634CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
INSTRUCTION ON ARMoured FIGHTING VEHICLES FOR THE NIGERIAN ARMY.

4. "UK NATIONALS CLOSELY CONNECTED WITH WAR EFFORT:-
(A) AIRWORK PERSONEL ENGAGED ON SERVICING OF PROVOST JETS. DETAILS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM AIRWORK LTD., HURN AIRPORT, CHRISTCHURCH, HANTS.
(B) RADIO INSTRUCTORS PROVIDED BY "COMMUNICATIONS CONSULTANTS" LTD OF 4 STEPHYNS CHAMBERS, HEMELHEMPSTEAD, TEL. BOXMORE 3760. THIS GROUP IS HEADED BY WILLIAM SIMPSON.
(C) DUDLEY THOMAS, CIVILIAN ON CONTRACT FROM MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (NAVAL DEPARTMENT). ORDNANCE EXPERT.
(D) LT. CR LAKIN-SMITH (RETIRED). CIVIL SERVANT IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE FOR MANY YEARS PAST. PRESENT POSITION, ASSISTANT SECRETARY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS.
(E) IT IS POSSIBLE THAT EXPATRIATE ENGINEERS WORKING FOR THE MINISTRY OF WORKS IN THE NORTHERN STATES HAVE BEEN ASSISTING REPAIR BRIDGES, ROADS, ETC.

5. "THERE ARE OF COURSE NUMEROUS RUSSIANS, CZECHS AND

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PAGE 4 RUTALS 6634CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
EGYPTIANS HELPING THE NIGERIAN AIR FORCE, AND GERMANS
FROM DORNIER. THERE ARE FIVE INDIAN OFFICERS IN THE
NIGERIAN NAVY AND ABOUT A DOZEN INDIAN INSTRUCTORS
(INCLUDING A COMMANDANT) AT THE NIGERIAN DEFENCE ACADEMY
IN KADUNA".
GP-4. MATHEWS.

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POL 27 BIAFRA NIGERIA

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TR POL 16 NIGERIA

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 06595 092203Z

89
ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, RSR 01, CIAE 00, GPM 03, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAEI 00, NSC 10,

P 04, RSC 01, SC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, AID 28, MC 01, GDP 01, E 15,

COM 08, TRSY 08, /157 W

2-19-68
Lagos 6595

R 091540Z FEB 68:
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS:
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9314
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA 1564
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 372
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA 547
AMEMBASSY LISBON 80
AMEMBASSY LONDON 2066
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA 694
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY 890
AMEMBASSY PARIS 768
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 1023
CINCSRIKE/CINCEAFSA UNN
DIA
AMCONSUL KADUNA 2153
AMCONSUL IBADAN 1621

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110.226

POL 27 Biafra Nigeria
TR POL 16 Biafra

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 6595

PAGE 2 RUTALS 6595CC C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

SUBJ: REACTION TO DEPARTMENT STATEMENT RECOGNIZING ONLY FMG

1. STATEMENT ISSUED BY DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN FEBRUARY 5:
HAS RECEIVED GENERALLY FAVORABLE IN NIGERIA. STATEMENT, WHICH

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WAS REPORTED STATE 110226 BUT NOT SENT TO ALL ABOVE ADDRESSEES, SAID DEPARTMENT HAD BEEN CONCERNED WITH NUMBER OF INSINUATIONS RECENTLY ALLEGING US CONTINUES RECOGNIZE FMG AS ONLY LEGAL GOVT IN NIGERIA, ADDING THAT PRIVATE ACTIONS OF FEW AMCITS OVER WHICH USG HAS NO CONTROL SHOULD IN NO WAY BE CONSTRUED AS AN INDICATION OF USG SUPPORT FOR AN UNRECOGNIZED REGIME.

2. GOWON AND EXTAFF OFFICIALS HAVE EMPHATICALLY EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR STATEMENT. IYALLA, AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE TO US, SAID "THIS IS JUST WHAT WE WANTED BUT TOO BAD IT WAS SO LATE IN COMING".

PAGE 3 RUTALS 6595CC C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
3. ON FEBRUARY 6 AND 7 STATEMENT GIVEN GOOD COVERAGE ON RADIO AND TV NEWS REPORTS, THREE NEWSPAPERS, GOVT-OWNED POST, SKETCH OF IBADAN AND WEST AFRICAN PILOT, CARRIED STORY STRAIGHT BUT TWO LARGEST AND BEST PAPERS OF COUNTRY, DAILY TIMES AND NEW NIGERIAN, HAVE NOT SEEN FIT TO CARRY STORY.

4. ONLY ONE PAPER HAS COMMENTED EDITOILY, TRIBUNE OF IBADAN. (REPORTED IN FULL, IBADAN 383). THIS COMMENT GENERALLY CRITICAL. TRIBUNE DID NOT CARRY NEWS STORY ITSELF. LAGOS RADIO FEBRUARY 8 REPORTED EDITORIAL AND QUOTES TRIBUNE CRITICISM THAT STORY CAME LATE AND TRIBUNE QUESTION: "WHO ARE THESE AMERICAN CITIZENS AND HOW PRIVATE ARE THEIR ACTIONS?" IN CONTEXT WHICH SUGGESTS QUOTATION FROM TRIBUNE, RADIO ADDS, "IN THIS INSTANCE IT IS U.S. CIA WHICH IS BEING USED AS TOOL FOR ACHIEVING DUBIOUS MISSIONS."

5. ANOTHER LAGOS RADIO NEWSTALK FEBRUARY 8, REPEATED FEBRUARY 9, WAS DEVOTED TO AMERICAN STATEMENT. WHILE

PAGE 4 RUTALS 6595CC C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
BURDEN OF NEWSTALK WAS EXPRESSION OF DELIGHT THAT OJUKWU

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DOES NOT HAVE AMERICAN BACKING. TALK CONTAINED SOME CRITICISM OF US. "UNFORTUNATELY AMERICA'S SILENCE HAS HELPED TO ENCOURAGE...REBEL." BECAUSE OF "MISCALCULATED HOPE THAT AMERICAN HELP WAS JUST AROUND CORNER" OJUKWU "CONTINUED TO PROLONG UNNECESSARY SUFFERING OF PEOPLE OF THREE EASTERN STATES". NOW THIS HOPE "DASHED TO GROUND... SOME AMERICAN CITIZENS ARE STILL SUPPLYING ARMS ILLEGALLY TO REBELS AND PROVIDING THEM WITH FINANCIAL FACILITIES. STATE DEPARTMENT'S EXPLANATION FOR THIS SORDID SITUATION IS THAT USG CANNOT BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR PRIVATE ACTIONS OF FEW AMERICANS. THIS IS A VALID ARGUMENT. BUT THERE IS LOT USG AND ALL ITS AGENCIES CAN DO IN HELPING TO STOP THIS ILLEGAL SUPPLY OF ARMS BY PRIVATE AMERICANS TO REBELS. AMERICA HAS WHAT AMOUNTS TO A DUTY TO STOP QUICKLY THESE IRRESPONSIBLE ACTIONS OF SOME OF ITS CITIZENS".

6. RADIO KADUNA FEBRUARY 8 IN VERY FAVORABLE AND EXTENSIVE NEWS COMMENTARY ON STATEMENT SAID REBELS HAVE BEEN "DECEIVING PEOPLE OF THREE EASTERN STATE THAT THEY HAVE

PAGE 5 RUTALS 6595CC. C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
FULL SUPPORT OF USG". THEY HAVE QUOTED FROM LETTERS TO EDITORS IN AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS CLAIMING "THAT SUCH LETTERS WHICH ARE WRITTEN BY UNKNOWN AN PRIVATE AMCITS REPRESENT THE VIEWS OF USG." NOW THEY MUST NO LONGER "MISREPRESENT AND SEEK TO TARNISH REPUTATION OF USG".

7 COMMENT: EMBASSY BELIEVES DEPARTMENT STATEMENT HAS HAD BENEFICIAL IMPACT ON USNIGERIAN RELATIONS. IT SHOWS WHERE WE STAND AND GIVES ANOTHER POSITIVE STATEMENT OF POLICY FOR US TO POINTOUT TO MG. THEREFORE, IT HELPS EMBASSY IN DEALING WITH TOP-LEVEL OFFICIALS.

DECON 2/9/71 MATHEWS.

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NR POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

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Kaduna 721
2-9-68

PAGE 01 KADUNA 00721 091452Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO IO 13, EUR 15, CIAE 00, GPM 03, HI 02, INR 07, LI 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04,

RSC 01, SC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SAH 03, NIC 01, AID 28, ACDA 16,

MSR 01, 157 W

R 091304Z FEB 68
FM AMCONSUL KADUNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 629
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS 1330
AMEMBASSY LONDON 282
RKDSL8/AMCONSUL IBADAN 362
DIA UNN
CINCSRIKE/CINCEAFSA UNN

UNCLAS KADUNA 721

REF: KADUNA 715 - POL 7 USSR

UNDER HEADLINE: QTE USSR TO HELP CRUSH REBELLION; UNQTE NEW
NIGERIAN FEBRUARY NINE CARRIED FOLLOWING ARTICLE (UNNECESSARY
WORDS DELETED); QTE GOVERNMENT OF USSR HAS AGAIN
EXPRESSED PREPAREDNESS HELP NIGERIA CRUSH PRESENT
REBELLION IN COUNTRY. THIS MADE KNOWN IN KADUNA
YESTERDAY BY TWO MAN DELEGATION STUDYING CULTURAL
LIFE OF NIGERIA ON BEHALF THEIR GOVERNMENT. DELEGATION

PAGE 2 RUDSLK 721 UNCLAS
LED BY MR. R.K. FEDORINOV, COUNSELLOR OF MINISTRY OF
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MOSCOW.

LEADER OF DELEGATION SAID THEY STRONGLY BELIEVED NIGERIA

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Pol 27 Biafra - Nigeria
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XR Pol 1 Nigeria - US

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PAGE 01 IBADAN 00383 110945Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, P 04, USIE 00, CIAE 00, INR 07, NSAE 00, RSC 01, ~~05~~ 01, 043 W

P 080840Z FEB 68
FM AMCONSUL IBADAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 498
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS 586
AMEMBASSY LONDON 346
AMCONSUL KADUNA REW
CINCLANT UNN
CINCSRIKE/CINCEAFSA UNN
DIA UNN

UNCLAS IBADAN 383

Microfilmed by RS/M
JOINT CONSULATE/USIS MESSAGE
SUBJECT, PRESS COMMENT ON LATEST DEPARTMENT STATEMENT
REF: STATE 110225

1. IBADAN-BASED NIGERIAN TRIBUNE CARRIED FOLLOWING FRONT
PAGE COMMENT UNDERTITLE "THE RIDDLE" UNESSENTIAL WORDS OMITTED.

2. "CATEGORICAL STATEMENT ISSUED BY US STATE DEPARTMENT
DENYING ANY SUPPORT FOR REBELS AND REAFFIRMING RECOGNITION

PAGE 2 RUDSLB 383 UNCLAS
FMG WAS INTENDED DISPEL RUMOURS AMERICAN BACKING MR. ODUMEGO
OJUKWO.

3. "WE WONDER WHETHER IT ACHIEVED IT SPURPOSE. FOR ONE THING,
IT CAME TOO LATE IN DAY BE ABLE MAKE DESIRED IMPACT. FOR AOTHER,

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PAGE 02 IBADAN 00383 110945Z

STATEMENT ADMITS A FEW AMERICAN CITIZENS OVER WHICH USG HAS NO CONTROL, HAVE TAKEN PRIVATE SECTIONS IN SUPPORT OF REBEL REGIME.

4. "WHAT ONE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW IS HOW FEW THESE AMERICAN CITIZENS REALLY ARE AND HOW PRIVATE ARE THEIR ACTIONS.

5. "RIDDLE ABOUT CURRENT CIVIL WAR IS THAT MR. OJUKWU RECEIVING BACKING SOME FOREIGN COUNTRIES. WHO THEY ARE, NO ONE SEEMS KNOW.

6. "IT RECOGNIZED PART INTERNATIONAL DIPLOMACY FOR COUNTRY SUPPORT LEGITIMATE GOVERNMENT ANOTHER COUNTRY OFFICIALLY WHILE UNOFFICIALLY BENEFITING ITS ENEMIES.

7. "IN INSTANT CASE USG IS UNFORTUNATE IN HAVING CIA WHICH HAS REPUTATION FOR OVERTHROWING GOVERNMENTS OFFICIALLY AND PUBLICLY SUPPORTED BY USG.

8. "WE THINK ROLE CIA IN CURRENT CIVIL WAR - IF AT ALL - IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN DECLARED STAND USG.

9. "WE DO NOT SUBSCRIBE TO MADNESS OF THOSE WHO EMOTIONALLY TREAT

PAGE 3 RUDSLB 383 UNCLAS

UNITED STATES AS VILLIAN OF PEACE IN CURRENT CIVIL WAR. AS IF MR. OJUKWU WOULD NOT HAVE DECLARED SECESSION WITHOUT AMERICAN ASSURANCES.

10. "BUT WE BELIEVE OFFICIAL STATEMENTS SUPPORT FROM FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS REALLY BELATED THIS STAGE OF WAR. E WOULD PREFER POSITIVE ACTS SUPPORT TO MERE WORDS.

11. "IN ANY CASE, FMG WELL ADVISED STRENGTHEN ITS INTELLIGENCE SERVICES AND RELY ON THEM TO KNOW TRUE STAND EACH FOREIGN COUNTRY. TO GO BY OFFICIAL DECLARATIONS

SUPPORT IS TO LIVE IN FOOLS PAADISE."
MITHOEFER

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POL 7 USSR
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XR DEF 19-6 USSR-NIGERIA 29
XR POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

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PAGE 01 KADUNA 00715 081952Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, CIAE 00, GPM 03, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04,

RSC 01, SC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SAH 03, NIC 01, AID 28, RSR 01,

MM 01, 129 W

R 081355Z FEB 68
FM ANVONSUL KADUNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 626
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS 1324
AMEMBASSY LONDON 281
DIA
CINCSRIKE/CINCEAFSA
AMCONSUL IBADAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KADUNA 715

SUBJECT: RUSSIAN VISITORS IN NORTH

1. KADUNA TELEVISION NEWS OF FEBRUARY 7 SHOWED TWO
RUSSIAN OFFICIALS MAKING OFFICIAL CALL ON CHAIRMAN
INTERIM ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL, COLONEL HASSAN KATSINA,
LT. COLONEL ABBA KYARI, MILGOV NORTH-CENTRAL STATE,

PAGE 2 RUTAKA 715KK C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
ALSO IN ATTENDANCE. TELECAST COMMENTS THAT RUSSIAN

VISITORS "RENEWING THEIR ACQUAINTANCE" WITH KYAGJE.

A. ONLY ONE OF TWO RUSSIANS IDENTIFIED, AS HEARD, AS

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Kaduna 715
2-8-68

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PAGE(S) MISSING IN ORIGINAL

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POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

SECRET 078

DEFENSE DEPT. 2-8-68

PAGE 01 082011Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO GPM 030SS 200L 030INR 070EUR 150OPR 020IO 130RSR 010FILE 010
MM 010/081 W

P R 081630Z FEB 68
FM USDAO/LAGOS NIGERIA
TO DIA PRIORITY
SECSTATE WASHDC
CINCSRIKE
RUEDNA/CINCLANT
UGFO RUEPIA/CIA WASHDVH
DA
AMCONSUL IBADAN
AMCONSUL KADUNA
DA GRNC

S E C R E T 0045 FEB 68. SGD HALLIGAN. COUNTRY: NIGERIA.
SUBJECT: UPDATE CURRENT FMG/EASTERN MIL SITUATION. DIA FOR
DIAC. CINCSRIKE FOR STRJ2-CV DA FOR ACSI.
1. FOLLOWING AVAIL FROM USUALLY RELIABLE SOURCES ARMY HQ AS OF
08 FEB 68:
A. FIRST DIV ENUGU SECTOR: REF PAR 1A. MY 0025 JAN 68. LEAD ELEMENTS
FIRST BRIGADE CONTINUE SOUTHWARD ADVANCE ALONG ESCARPMENT FROM UDI
AND CONTROL ROUOZ THREE TO VILLAGE ABO-OGUGU (0615N0719E) APPROX

PAGE 2 RUTALS 6562CC S E C R E T
THIRTEEN ROAD MILES SOUTH ENUGU. TO EAST ROUTE THREE ANOTHER COLUMN
THIS BRIGADE ALSO MOVING SOUTH FROM AGBANI ALONG AXIS RAIL LINE
WITH INITIAL OBJECTIVE VILLAGE OGBAWKA (0614N0735E) FIVE MILES
SOUTH AGBANI. SECOND BRIGADE THIS DIV CONTINUES ITS MOVE EASTWARD
ON AXIS ROUTE ELEVEN WITH OBJECTIVE ABAKALIKI. LEAD ELEMENTS LAST

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PAGE 02 082011Z

REPORTED VICINITY AGAGA VILLAGE ROAD JUNCTION (0624N0753E) APPROX FIFTEEN MILES WEST ABAKALIKI. THIRD BRIGADE THIS DIV: OPERATING EAST AYA, ANYIM AND CROSS RIVER LINE FROM OGOJA SOUTH TO IKOM; NOW WEST OF CROSS RIVER OPERATING SOUTH OF BIG BEND CROSS RIVER (IKOM TO OBUBRA) WITH MISSION CLEARING REBEL FORCES SOUTH OF BEND. GENERAL AXIS ADVANCE NORTHWEST FROM IKOM TO OBUBRA. (AS IT KNOWN SUBSTANTIAL REBEL FORCES IN OBUBRA AREA, IT LIKELY ACTION WILL DEVELOP THIS FRONT AS SECOND BRIGADE DRIVES EAST TOWARD ABAKALIKI AND THIRD BRIGADE DRIVES NORTHWEST TOWARD OBUBRA ONLY TWENTY TWO MILES SOUTHEAST ABAKALIKI).
B. SECOND DIV NORTHWEST SECTOR: REF PAR 1A MY 0024 JAN 68, AND PAR 1A MY 0035 FEB 68: TEN BRIGADE ON DIV LEFT EAST MOVING SOUTH FROM OJI POWER COMPLEX WITH NEXT OBJECTIVE BELIEVED VILLAGE ACHI (0608N0721E). (INT RED CROSS PERSONNEL HAVE BEEN OPERATING AT HOSPITAL ACHI). IN CENTER DIV SECTOR SIX BRIGADE HAS CUT ROUTE TEN

PAGE 3 RUTALS 6562CC S E C R E T

AT VCHLAGE AMANSEE APPROX FIVE ROAD MILES NE AWKA ON ROUTE EN. EIGHT BRIGADE ON DIV RIGHT (WEST) "HEAVILY ENGAGED" WITH REBEL FIFTY FOUR BRIGADE VICINITY IFITE AWKA HILL JUST NORTH AWKA. (EXPAT DOCTOR IN BENIN TOLD UK DEP HIGH COMMISSIONER THERE (PROTECT BOTH SOURCES) SEVENTY BADLY WOUNDED FED SOLDIERS ADMITTED BENIN GEN HOSP 03 FEB FROM FIGHTING AWKA AREA VIA IDAH FERRY CROSSING. (CONFIRMING VIEWS ISRAELI MIL SURGEON ON QUALITY FMG MIL MEDICAL CARE, KVPREVIOUSLY REPORTED, E/0-5 SOURCE SAID FIELD FIRST AID GIVEN THESE EVACUATED CASUALTIES POOR).
2. IN RECENT CONVERSATION, C/S ARMY BISALLA SAID FED FORCES DO NOT CONSIDER ONITSHA AS PRIME TARGET CURRENT OPERATIONS ENUGU/NORTHWEST SECTOR. SOURCE SAID, "AFTER AWKA FALLS ONITSHA WILL FALL OF OWN WEIGHT". FURTHER, HE INDICATED FED PLANS AT PRESENT DO NOT CONTEMPLATE REPAIRS ONITSHA END NIGER RIVER BRIDGE BLOWN IN OCT BY REBEL FORCES RETREATING FROM MID-WEST. SOURCE SAID FMG WOULD USE LIGHTER AND FERRY FOR DURATION WAR AND LEAVE MATTER REPAIR OF BRIDGE AS "ONE OF POSTWAR PROBLEMS". (DATT SUSPECTS FMG MIL FIGURES NOW RECOGNIZE REPAIR OR NONREPAIR OF BRIDGE REPRESENTS POTENT MIL/POLITICO/ECON WEAPON IN HAND FED GOVT IN ANY FUTURE DEALINGS WITH REPS EAST CENTRAL STATE).

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By	MV NARA Date 10/5/05



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PAGE 03 082011Z

PAGE 4 RUTALS 6562CC S E C R E T

3. NIGERIAN AIR FORCE:

A. IN CONVERSATION WITH COMMANDER AIR FORCE ALAO 08 FEBN DAO MAP OFFICER WAS TOLD FMG NOW USING ENUGU AIRFIELD. ALAO HAD TAKEN PLANE IN 07 FEB.

B. ON 07 FEB CIVILIAN SOURCE IN MOD WHO HAS ACCESS TO SUCH DOCUMENTS (PROTECT BOTH SOURCE AND METHOD BY WHICH INFO OBTAINED) SHOWED DAO MAP OFFICER COPY OF THREE CONTRACTS BETWEEN FMG AND COMMUNIST SUPPLIERS. IN FIRST CASE CONTRACT SHOWED FIRST TWO CZECH DELFIN L29 PLANES COST FED GOVT FORTY FIVE THOUSAND NIGERIAN POUNDS EACH (ONE NIG POUNDS EQUALS TWO POINT EIGHT US DOLLARS). SOURCE SAID REMAINDER HAD COST "ABOUT THE SAME". SECOND CONTRACT SHOWED FMG PAID EGYPT SUM ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY FIVE THOUSAND NIG POUNDS EACH FOR TWO IL28 LIGHT BOMBERS. A THIRD IL28 IS ON ORDER BUT WILL NOT BE DELIVERED "UNTIL EGYPT'S REPLACEMENT STOCKS PROVIDED BY SOV UNION ALLOW TRANSFER ADDITIONAL IL28 TO FMG NIGERIA". THIRD CONTRACT CONCERNED MIG FIFTEENS. NO MONETARY SUMS WERE CONTAINED ON CONTRACT AND WORDING OF CONTRACT INDICATED TO DAO MAP OFFICER THAT THESE SPECIFIC PLANES WERE ON FIT BASIS. MOD SOURCE CONFIRMED THIS. WITH RESPECT TO MIG SEVENTEENS, SOURCE, WHO PASSES ON LEGAL CONTENT ALL MOD CONTRACTS, SAID "I HAVE NOT SEEN ANY FORM

PAGE 5 RUTALS 6562CC S E C R E T

CONTRACT AS YET ON MIG SEVENTEENS AND DO NOT KNOW WHAT PRICING ARRANGEMENTS THESE ARE".

C. POLITICAL SOURCE OF DCM TOLD DCM 07 FEB THAT NAME OF ONE OF EGYPTIAN IL28 PILOTS NOW IN NIGERIA IS QUOTE CAPTAIN SITKI UNQUOTE. HE REPORTED TO BE OFFICER IN CHARGE THIS FLIGHT OF TWO PURCHASED BY FMG. GP3

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POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

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PAGE 01 BERLIN 00900 071737Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 03, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSC 10, P 04,

RSC 01, SC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, NSA 02, AID 28, ACDA 16, IO 13,

RSR 01, MM 01, /156 W

R 071644Z FEB 68 ZFF-4
FM USMISSION BERLIN
TO AMEMBASSY LAGOS 0005
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2031
AMEMBASSY BONN 2010
AMEMBASSY LONDON 0845
AMCONSUL STUTTGART 0016

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BERLIN 0900

SUBJECT: PRESS CONFERENCE BY BIAFRAN LEADER

REF: LAGOS 6455 - 716 3-85

1. A BERLIN NEWSPAPER, THE "TAGESSPIEGEL," CARRIES AN ACCOUNT OF A PRESS CONFERENCE GIVEN IN BERLIN ON FEBRUARY 3 BY DR. FRANCIS IBIAM, WHO ACCORDING TO THE PAPER, IS THE CHIEF POLITICAL ADVISOR

PAGE 2 RUFHJA 0900 C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
TO MILITARY GOVERNOR OJUKWU OF THE BIAFRAN SECESSIONIST STATE. THE FOLLOWING SUMMARIZES THE PRINCIPAL POINTS COVERED BY IBIAM AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE:

2. IBIAM ACCUSED GREAT BRITAIN AND THE SOVIET UNION OF INTERFERING UNESIDERELY IN AN INTERNAL DISPUTE BY DELIVERING WEAPONS ONLY TO THE

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PAGE 02 BERLIN 00900 071737Z

NIGERIAN CENTRAL GOVERNMENT WHILE "BIAFRA" HAD TO BUY WEAPONS ON THE "EUROPEAN BLACK MARKET." HE CHARACTERIZED GREAT BRITAIN AS THE "FATHER" OF "BOTH PARTS OF NIGERIA" GIVING WEAPONS TO ONE "SON" IN ORDER TO "KILL THE OTHER ONE."

3. HE SAID THAT, ASIDE FROM THE PORT HARCOURT AIRPORT, "BIAFRA" WAS COMPLETELY CUT OFF FROM THE OUTSIDE WORLD BY FEDERAL TROOPS. ACCORDING TO IBIAM THINGS WERE MADE MORE DIFFICULT BY THE PRESENCE IN BIAFRAN TERRITORY OF OVER 2 MILLION IBO REFUGEES FROM OTHER PARTS OF NIGERIA. IBIAM CALLED FOR MORAL SUPPORT FROM FELLOW CHRISTIANS AND FROM THE UN AND REQUESTED MEDICINES AND ANTIBIOTICS FOR THE CHILDREN AND THE SICK. HE ASKED WHY THE WORLD AND ESPECIALLY THE CHURCHES DID NOTHING TO PREVENT AN "EXTERMINATION CAMPAIGN" AGAINST 14 MILLION PEOPLE.

PAGE 3. RUFHJA 0900 C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

4. IBIAM CLOSED WITH A DIG AT BONN, SAYING THAT HE "REGRETTED" THE FACT THAT "NOT ONE SINGLE CHRISTIAN POLITICIAN" FROM THE GERMAN FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAD BEEN PREPARED TO RECEIVE HIM OFFICIALLY.

5. THE BERLIN SENAT PROTOCOL OFFICE HAS DISCLOSED TO THE MISSION THAT DR. IBIAM WAS INVITED TO BERLIN AS A GUEST OF THE EVANGELICAL CHURCH OF BERLIN BRANDENBURG AND WAS NOT RECEIVED OFFICIALLY BY ANY MEMBER OF THE SENAT.

DECON RECEIPT. MORRIS

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 06533 071944Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, NSA 02, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 03, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSC 10,

P 04, RSC 01, SC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SAH 03, IO 13, AID 28, RSR 01, W

MM 01/143 W

P R 071550Z FEB 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9288
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON 2064

CONFIDENTIAL LAGOS 6533

REF: STATE 110968 *pol 27 Biafra Nigeria*

1. SUBSTANCE REFTEL DISCUSSED WITH ACTING BRITISH DHC ANDERSON BY POL COUNSELOR. ANDERSON READILY AGREED FOREIGN PRESS REPORTS OF INDISCRIMINATE FMG BOMBING OF CHURCHES, SCHOOLS AND HOSPITALS IN EAST COULD SERIOUSLY ALIENATE PUBLIC OPINION ABROAD. HE THOUGH HC DEFENSE ADVISOR (COL. ROBERT SCOTT), WHO HAS READY ACCESS TO GOWON, MIGHT BE BEST CHANNEL TO RE-EMPHASIZE OUR CONCERN IN WAY WHICH WOULD NOT BE RESENTED. SCOTT HAS ALREADY DONE THIS PREVIOUSLY (SEE PARA 3).

PAGE 2 RUTALS 6533CC: CONFIDENTIAL
2. UKHC AND EMB BELIEVE GOWON IN PARTICULAR IS WELL AWARE OF PROBLEM, WHICH VARIOUS CHURCH LEADERS HAVE POINTED OUT TO FMG, AND WANTS TO CONTROL IT. STRONG ICRC PROTEST TO FMG ABOUT BOMBING OF RED CROSS HOSPITAL REPORTED TO CO TODAY BY UKHC, AS FOLLOWS:

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PAGE 02 LAGOS 06533 071944Z

3. "BOMBING OF MARY SLESSOR HOSPITAL, ITU. ACCOUNT GIVEN IN BBN AFRICAN SERVICE MORNING SHOW OF 7 FEB. SUBSTANTIALLY CONFIRMED BY ICRC REPRESENTATIVE IN BIAFRA IN REPORT SENT TO GENEVA LAST WEEK. HOSPITAL, WHICH HAD RED CROSSES ON ROOFS, WAS ATTACKED THREE TIMES AT HALF-HOURLY INTERVALS BY TWO JET AIRCRAFT ON 23 JANUARY. HOSPITAL BADLY DAMAGED AND AT LEAST SIX PEOPLE KILLED. SOME EXPATRIATE STAFF WERE INJURED.

A. ICRC REPRESENTATIVE HERE HAS PROTESTED IN STRONGEST TERMS TO FMG AND IS SEEKING PERMISSION TO GO TO CALABAR TO MAKE REPRESENTATIONS TO COL. ADEKUNLE.

B. "SUPREME HQ HAVE SUGGESTED TO DA THAT NIGERIAN

PAGE 3 RUTALS 6533CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
AIR FORCE PILOTS NOW FLYING MIGS MAY HAVE ATTACKED HOSPITAL BELIEVING IT TO BE BIAFRAN MILITARY HQ FOR ABAKALIKI SECTOR AT OBUBRA. THIS IS ABOUT 60 MILES FROM ITU BUT I FEAR NIGERIAN PILOTS, WITH THEIR RELATIVE INEXPERIENCE OF FLYING FAST JETS, ARE QUITE CAPABLE OF MAKING NAVIGATIONAL ERROR OF SUCH MAGNITUDE. MY D.O.A. HAS NEVERTHELESS IMPRESSED ON SUPREME HQ THE GRAVE DAMAGE THIS ATTACK COULD DO TO NIGERIA'S INTERNATIONAL REPUTATION. ACR HAS URGED THAT EVERY EFFORT BE MADE TO PREVENT A RECURRENCE.

C. "SINCE DRAFTING ABOVE WE HAVE HAD FROM ICRC REPRESENTATIVE ALTERNATIVE EXPLANATION WHICH WAS GIVEN HIM BY SECRETARY OF WAR CABINET AFTER LATTER HAD CONVEYED ICRC PROTEST TO GOWON. THIS WAS THAT FMG HAD HAD INTELLIGENCE (RADIO INTERCEPTS) THAT HOSPITAL WAS BEING USED TO BILLET BIAFRAN TROOPS. ICRC ARE ACCORDINGLY BEING ASKED BY FMG TO INSTRUCT JAGGI TO ENSURE THAT HOSPITALS IN BIAFRA ARE NOT USED FOR MILITARY PURPOSES.

D. "WE HAVE NO INDEPENDENT CONFIRMATION OF THIS

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PAGE 4 RUTALS 6533CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
STORY, WHICH OF COURSE CONFLICTS WITH EXPLANATION GIVEN TO
D.A., AND LOOKS SUSPICIOUSLY LIKE A FACE-SAVING INVENTION
BY FMG."

4. E. EMB OFFICERS WILL USE EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO IMPRESS
ON NIGERIAN OFFICIALDOM USG CONCERN OVER BOMBINGS
HOSPITALS, SCHOOLS, ETC.

GP4 MATHEWS

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, MM 01, RSR 01, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 03, H 02, INR 07,
L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SAH 03,
PPT 02, SCA 02, SY 03, FBI 01, NEA 13, /134 W

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N Lagos 6498
2-6-68

R 061750Z FEB 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9273
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA 1559
AMEMBASSY LOME 393
AMEMBASSY LONDON 2062
MCONSUL IBADAN 1613
AMCONSUL KADUNA 2137

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 6498

REF: LAGOS 6272 *Pol 27 Biafra Nigeria*

SUBJ: QUAKER PEACE MISSION

1. BRITISH HC MESSAGE TO CO FEB. 5 FOLLOWS:

2. "WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED IN CONFIDENCE OF A FURTHER EFFORT
AT MEDIATION BETWEEN FMG AND JUKWU BY ADAM CURLE, AN ENGLISH

RECEIVED BY 12/3

PAGE 2 RUTALS 6498CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
QUAKER, WHO IS AT PRESENT HEAD OF THE EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT AT HARVARD UNIVERSITY. CURLE VISITED NIGERIA
BRIEFLY IN MAY LAST YEAR JUST BEFORE OUTBREAK OF CIVIL WAR
AND WAS HERE AGAIN LAST WEEK WHEN HE SAW GENERAL GOWON FOR
ONE AND A HALF HOURS. CURLE LEFT FOR LONDON ON 4 FEBRUARY

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PAGE 02 LAGOS 06498 070453Z

WITH THE INTENTION OF GOING TO EASTERN NIGERIA TO SEE OJUKWU. CURLE GAVE NO DETAILS OF HIS TALK WITH GOWON BUT IT WAS PRESUMABLE SUFFICIENTLY ENCOURAGING TO WARRANT HIS GOING ON TO BIAFRA.

3. "CURLE WAS ORIGINALLY A DON AT EXETER UNIVERSITY, HE THEN WORKED WITH FORD FOUNDATION IN PAKISTAN AS A CONSULTANT ON SOCIAL WELFARE, FOLLOWED BY A PERIOD IN GHANA AS HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF LONDON."

GP4 MATHEWS

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POL 27 BIAFRA - NIGERIA

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Origin ACTION: Amembassy LAGOS PRIORITY

Info: INFO: Amembassy LONDON

STATE

1. Increasing number of reports that FMG indiscriminately bombing Eastern churches, schools and hospitals being given wide publicity here. Presume similar play in segments European press as well. Such reports damaging to FMG and, if continued, could lead to shifts of opinion toward present conflict in US and elsewhere.
2. Recognize sensitivity of FMG on this and related questions, but above reports vary sharply from Gowon's repeated statements that war not directed against people of East. Thus believe he should be informed of potentially serious damage such bombings could create in alienating influential sectors of opinion abroad. Believe as well that he should perceive such actions further "Biafran" propaganda that conflict is religious war.
3. HMG likely share our concern. Suggest you therefore explore matter with UK colleague and consider how best this concern, now heightened by reported presence of IL-28's in Makurdi, could be brought to Gowon's attention. Department leaves method to your discretion but considers it important that Gowon be under no illusions about effects of such reports on external public opinion.

END

Drafted by: RMM/EL/10/11/68

AFW:RPSmith:emb 2/6/68

Tel. Ext. 2619

Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by:

AF - Joseph Palmer and RUSK

Clearances:

AF/P - Mr. Perkins (substance)

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By MN NARA Date 10/5/05

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 03, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00,

NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SAH 03, AID 28,

ACDA 16, MM 01, RSR 01, /157 W

R 061440Z FEB 68
FM AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1469
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN 319
AMEMBASSY ACCRA 86
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 83
AMEMBASSY BANGUI 57
AMEMBASSY COTONOU 179
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AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM 16
AMEMBASSY FORT LAMY 137
AMEMBASSY KIGALI 35
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AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 79

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C O N F I D E N T I A L RUFNCR 1125MM C O N F I D E N T I A L

INCONVERSATIONS 5TH WITH AF/CW DIRECTOR SCHAUFLE AND DCM,
PRESIDENT DIORI AND FONMIN SIDIKOU PRESENTED FOLLOWING PICTURE

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PAGE 02 NIAMEY 01125 061605Z.

OF NIGERIAN SITUATION AS VIEWED FROM PERSPECTIVE OF RECENT OCAM SUMMIT AND CURRENT VISIT GENERAL ANKRAH TO NIAMEY.

ACCORDING SIDIKOU, BOTH OJUKWU AND GOWON HAD SENT LETTERS TO OCAM CONFERENCE. GOWON'S LETTER PROMISED THAT FMG MILITARY CAMPAIGN AGAINST BIAFRA WOULD CEASE FEBRUARY 15 AND THAT HE WOULD THEN SEEK "ROUND-TABLE DISCUSSIONS." SIDIKOU SAID OCAM CHIEFS AGREED HOLD GOWON TO HIS WORD AND WOULD MAKE STRONG DEMARCHE PRESUMABLY PUBLICLY IN NAME OF OCAM IF GOWON DID NOT FOLLOW THROUGH. SIDIKOU SAID "WE CANNOT CONTINUE TO TOLERATE ON AFRICAN SOIL WHAT WE DO NOT APPROVE ELSEWHERE". (COMMENT: NOT CLEAR WHO WOULD SIT AT GOWON'S ROUND TABLE IN ADDITION TO HIMSELF).

DIORI SAID ANKRAH HAD GOT NOWHERE IN HIS ATTEMPT CONTACT OJUKWU ALTHOUGH HE STILL TRYING THROUGH "CONNECTIONS IN EUROPE". ALTHOUGH PESSIMISTIC ANYTHING WOULD COME OF EITHER ATTEMPT.

PAGE 3 RUFNCR 1125MM C O N F I D E N T I A L

DIORI SAID AHIDJO ALSO TRYING EMPLOY HIS GOOD OFFICES WITH BIAFRANS. DIORI STATED BOTH HE AND AHIDJO EXTREMELY TROUBLED

BY POSSIBLE FUTURE NECESSITY DEALING WITH SIX SEPARATE PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATIONS IN NORTHERN NIGERIA WHEREAS PREVIOUSLY "WE COULD HANDLE ALL OUR DEALINGS WITH THE NORTH THROUGH KANO OR KADUNA". (NIGER HAS CONSULATE IN KANO).

ACCORDING SIDIKOU, OCAM IS COUNTING ON NYERERE/HOUPHOUET CONVERSATIONS IN ABIDJAN LATER THIS MONTH AS STILL ANOTHER SOURCE OF POSSIBLY USEFUL INITIATIVES TO BRING NIGERIAN HOSTILITIES TO AN END.

GP-3 RYAN

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ACTION AF 15

INFO IO 13, EUR 15, LAE 00, DODE 00, INR 07, NSAE 00, P 04, RSC 01, USIA 12

GPM 03, SP 02, L 03, H 02, RSR 01, MM 01, /079 W

R 051555Z FEB 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9248
AMEMBASSY BERN 19
AMEMBASSY BONN 58
AMEMBASSY LONDON 2057
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA 43
AMEMBASSY PARIS 7
USMISSION BERLIN 9
USUN 229
INFO AMCONSUL IBADAN 1608
AMCONSUL KADUNA 2128

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REF: LAGOS 6365

PAGE 2 RUTALS 6455CC C O RIF I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
1. REUTERS FEB. 3 REPORTS FROM WEST BERLIN THAT DR. FRANCIS
AKANU IBIAM HAS APPEALED TO CHRISTIAN CHURCHES FOR MORAL AND
FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR FELLOW CHRISTIANS IN "BIAFRA". TOLD
PRESS CONFERENCE IN BERLIN "BIAFRAN" SOLDIERS BEING FED BY
POPULATION AND RECEIVING NO PAY. REUTERS REPORTS THAT IBIAM
PLANS GO TO STUTTGART FEB. 4 AND TO SWITZERLAND AND US LATER IN
MONTHS.

2. AS INDICATED REFTEL EMBASSY WILL APPRECIATE ANY INFO WHICH

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PAGE 02 LAGOS 06455 051826Z

MAY BECOME AVAILABLE TO ADDRESSEES ON IBIAM'S TRAVELS AND ACTIVITIES.

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Origin

ACTION: Amembassy LAGOS

Info:

INFO: Amembassy LONDON

STATE _____

SUBJ: Weekend Press Summary

1. Washington Post has Astrachan stories Feb 4 and 5, editorial Feb 5. Sunday Astrachan says only 5 or 6 of three dozen or so factories operating in Biafra, including soft drink plant, brewery, textile plant and cigarette factory. Last is largest private employer with 521 workers producing 60 million cigarettes per month, less than half prewar figure. Workers get 80 percent normal pay for 50 percent shift. Other plants shut down for lack imported raw materials. Economy seen grinding to halt at all levels, but one gets no impression real austerity, real suffering, real inability support war. Ordinary people have plenty yams, cassava, greens after two good crop years. Poultry, pork available though man in street ordinarily eats little meat and in bush less so. Salt problem for few months but Biafra now operating own salt factory. Many people have returned to farms under extended family system. Biafra has plenty vehicles, once had 60 to 75 percent federation's transport. Tires, batteries among few real problems. Ojukwu said refinery not rpt not working since hit in December bombing raids, but

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Drafted by:

AF:AF/P:RLPerkins:esw

2/5/68

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Telegraphic transmission and
classification approved by:

AF/P - Mr. Perkins

Clearances:

AFW - Mr. RP Smith (substance)

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By MVA Date 10/5/05

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Biafra has enough gas, diesel fuel in storage keep going a year. Other sources said refinery really working, but govt wants keep Lagos in doubt. Trains running on Enugu coal taken from mines before town fell. On foreign exchange, Nigeria may be worse off than Biafra. FMG reserves now down to 98 million dollars, less than half June 30 and 37 percent what they were Jan 31, 1967. FMG buying more sophisticated weapons and consumer goods than Biafra.

2. On currency exchange, Biafra pulled in most of 53 million pounds in circulation by January 10, individuals given bank credits or govt receipts, used only coins for money for three weeks. New Biafran notes and postage stamps made in Switzerland distributed Jan 29. Govt giving only 20 pounds at time to individuals, something more to companies, to control inflation and give govt benefit of what is in effect forced loan.

3. Astrachan Feb 5 says Ojukwu told reporter he would welcome US intervention QTE bring this futile fighting to an end UNQTE Officially USG noninterventionist but supports Lagos determination keep Nigeria one. Emb officials Lagos of two minds whom support and how much prior May 30 secession and again July. America's inactive role in ~~xx~~ part response to diplomats who warned Biafra might survive and should not be discouraged. CIA rumored pro-Biafra. One CIA agent keeps close touch American crews who fly Super Constellations from Lisbon. Some crew members on leave from Airlift International of Miami, carrier that does lot of US defense-related business and suspected having CIA connections. Portugal giving vital help by transit rights for six Constellations and at least 3 other planes with predominantly Rhodesian crews. Ojukwu has no

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apologies use Portuguese and Rhodesian help, feels he needs every bit he can get. Of African countries, Tanzania has given him most sympathy so far. France may yet do most for Biafra. SAFRAP asked pay royalties to Umuahia rather than Lagos. Faulques reported have discussed aid with Foccart, de Gaulle aide who combines African trouble shooting with intelligence work. But Ojukwu said at press conference British might yet retain influence. I was brought up in Britain. They know so well how to make amends.

4. Post editorial Feb 4 calls on Nigeria ease of military campaign, accept cease fire and enter negotiations to save itself ~~xxx~~ uncountable cost and suffering and earn respect decent men everywhere. Prompt and sincere return to diplomacy should suffice determine whether Biafra willing relinquish sovereignty. While Nigeria public statements on treatment Ibos reassuring, govt has been unable prevent soldiers and civilian supporters from wreaking terrible vengeance. Moreover Nigerian airforce equipped Soviet jets and Egyptian pilots have been bombing schools and hospitals as well as other targets Biafra. Biafra feels it must fight on or perish. Nigeria could forestall such self-defeating choice by adopting policy magnanimity. Largest and potentially greatest nation of black Africa can never fulfill destiny by pressing relentless war against part of itself.

5. Garrison in Feb 4 NY Times interviews Dick Tiger in Biafran uniform in Port Harcourt. QTE I know this really a forgotten war as far as rest of world concerned. Nobody really cares about Africa, nobody in America understands.

If we don't fight back, if we don't protect our rights, it will be - what's

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FORM 9-63 DS-322A
CONTINUATION SHEET

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the word - genocide, like they did to the Jews. They're out to kill us all. I used to believe in Nigeria. I invested lot of my money in Lagos. I've got two apartment houses and real estate there that cost me \$103,000. They say it's all gone. Requisitioned. Lagos radio says I'm a traitor. Imagine after killing 30,000 of us. Where did they want us to go? UNQTE Not always this way, says ~~Sam~~ Garrison. Only four years ago Tiger fought only title defense in Nigeria, third and last bout with Gene Fullmer who so badly mauled his seconds threw in towel at end of sixth. Liberty Stadium Ibadan was pandemonium, politicians fighting get picture taken with hero. Such front page pictures with Tiger most potent political juju since introduction stuffed ballot box in Nigeria. For one hot steamy night in Ibadan Tiger was Nigeria, symbol of unity, embodiment nation's pride. Now he traitor to one side, talks of Abigail and seven children and how Owerri dive bombed other day twanty miles from his home of Amaigbo. QTE They got the girl's convent UNQTE said Tiger blankly as if it all incomprehensible. Would like fight in another two months, didn't know who or where but thought army would let him off. He doing troop training, physical exercises, obstacle course, running with troops, in good shape. Would he see combat? QTE If I am needed, he shrugged, I don't mind UNQTE

END

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OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
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5 FEB 68 23 05Z

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Origin ACTION: Amembassy LAGOS ~~IMMEDIATE~~ PRIORITY

Info: INFO: Amembassy LONDON
 Amconsul IBADAN
 Amconsul KADUNA

STATE

1. Following statement issued by Dept spokesman at noon briefing, Feb 5:
 QTE We've been concerned with a number of insinuations recently alleging
~~xxxx~~ US support of the Biafra regime. I wish to make very clear that the
 US continues to recognize the FMG as the only legal govt in Nigeria. We
 do not recognize Biafra nor, so far as we know, does any other govt in
 the world. We have, from the outset of the Nigerian crisis, regarded it
 as an internal conflict which, in the last analysis, only the Nigerians
 themselves can resolve. At the same time, we had hoped that the
 conflict would ~~yield~~ yield a peaceful solution which would spare all
 Nigerians from further tragic loss of life. The private actions of a
 few American citizens over which we have no control should in no way be
 construed as an indication of USG support for an unrecognized regime.
 The USG has in no way encouraged, supported, or otherwise been involved
 in this rebellion UNQTE

2. No questions were asked on the foregoing. FYI Above statement
 intended counter recent spate news stories from visitors to Biafra and
 Biafran radio insinuation of US support. END FYI

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 classification approved by AF/P - Mr. Perkins
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POL 27 BIAFRA NIGERIA
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PAGE 01 LAGOS 06418 040744Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, MM 01, CIAE 00, GPM 03, H 02, INR 07, LI 03, NGAE 00,

NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SAH 03, AID 28, PC 04,

CSR 01, 145 W

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AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0234
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA 1554
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 371
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA 542
AMEMBASSY LISBON 078
AMEMBASSY LONDON 2056
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA 687
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY 881
AMEMBASSY PARIS 764
AMEMBASSY USUN 228
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 1018
AMCONSUL KADUNA 2122
CINCSRIKE
DIA
CINCEAFSA
AMCONSUL IBADAN 1605

UNCLAS LAGOS 6418

SUBJECT: STEP-UP IN FMG PROSECUTION OF WAR

1. COMMISSIONER INFO ENAHORO ANNOUNCED AT PRESS CONFERENCE NOON FEB 3 THAT FEDERAL TROOPS HAVE CAPTURED OJI RIVER POWER STATION APPROXIMATELY 30 MILES SOUTHWEST OF ENUGU, CAPITAL OF FORMER EASTERN REGION. POWER STATION IS KEY INSTALLATION SUPPLYING ELECTRICITY FOR MOST OF CENTRAL AND NORTHERN PART

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PAGE 02 LAGOS 06418 040744Z

OF PRESENT EAST CENTRAL STATE. ENAHORO ALSO ANNOUNCED 30
POWS TAKEN THIS ENGAGEMENT

PAGE 2 RUDSLC 6418G UNCLAS

2. IN ANNOUNCING CAPTURE SMALL VILLAGE NAMED ITIKU, ENAHORO
SAID SIGNIFICANT THING WAS THIS FIRST TIME THERE HAS BEEN
SURRENDER ON GROUP BASIS, WITH REBELS FLYING WHITE
SURRENDER FLAG.

3. ENAHORO DISTRIBUTED PLASTIC COINS (SHILLINGS AND PENCE)
WHICH HE SAID BIAFRANS USING AS CURRENCY.

4. HE ALSO DISTRIBUTED FOR INSPECTION BY CORRESPONDENTS
PERSONAL EFFECTS THREE MERCENARIES (BELGIAN, GERMAN, ITALIAN)
INCLUDING PASSPORTS, PHOTOGRAPHS. CORRESPONDENTS FOUND THIS
CONVINCING EVIDENCE BIAFRANS USING MERCS. THESE THREE RE-
PORTE KILLED IN ACTION NEAR DUNLOP PLANTATION NORTH OF
CALABAR.

5. VOA FILLING FULL REPORT ON PRESS CONFERENCE.

6. COMMENT: PRESS CONFERENCE CAPS A WEEK OF REPORTED FMG
MILITARY SUCCESSES, WHICH SHOULD GIVE A FILLIP TO FEDERAL
MORALE AFTER APPARENT LACK OF ACTION IN PAST WEEKS.
MATHews

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3 FEB 68 17 05Z

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Origin
Info:

ACTION: Amembassy LAGOS

1. Following summary Garrison article NYTimes 3 Feb. Nigerian rebels have support of Eastern minorities, despite earlier FMG predictions of minority tribe uprisings against Ibos, even with arrival FMG troops Calabar, Bonny, and promises of minority states in East. Minorities cite massacre of non-Ibo Easterners in North 1966, FMG looting and atrocities in liberated areas, fair representation in Biafran Government. Most important reason baffling FMG decision bomb non-Ibo population centers. Because number of mission-run schools, churches, hospitals bombed, minorities believe QTE Northern, Moslem-dominated federal army waging religious war to convert all Eastern Christians by sword. UNQTE. One missionary believes missions hit because most conspicuous buildings, but director Mary Slessor Hospital stated it must have been deliberate as hospital on hill with four ten-foot wide Red Crosses painted on white roofs and two MIG's doing bombing swooped very low. Director believes bombing possibly

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By MN NARA Date 10/5/05

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retaliation for hospital, doctor's article in Church of Scotland publication. Biafran officials taped FMG broadcast Kaduna announcing Christmas Eve destruction of Roman Catholic Cathedral Owerri. Four girls under 11 years killed Owerri. Approximately 300 foreign missionaries left in Biafra, about 250 Catholic mostly Irish but sprinkling of Americans. Very few reported desire to evacuate. A few wounded, some while ministering to troops on front, but none killed. END.

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2 FEB 68 23 28Z

Origin ACTION: Amembassy LAGOS

Info: STATE

Following summary Garrison article NYTimes 2 February. Outcome of war may well be decided on Bonny Island, where FMG troops still pinned down despite claims major advances and reports of penetration Port H suburbs. East continues control two most precious prizes of war: oil refinery and PH airport. Chartered connies piloted by Americans ~~xx~~ land almost every night from Lisbon with arms and ammo. Fee per flight \$22,000. Planes return empty except for occasional Biafran envoy, soldiers, badly wounded European mercs. Despite repeated raids not even airport control tower hit. Bombing destroyed 2 storage tanks, but refinery still in operation. Control of Biafra's oil wealth seen by secessionists as important factor behind UK and USSR involvement with FMG. UK has supplied arms, ammo, mil advisers, \$28 million loan. USSR patrol boats, MIG fighters, military transports. PH now fortress city. Creeks, mangrove swamps impassable. Only means taking PH from Bonny is via water channel but mine fields laid and concrete

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bunkers, gun emplacements line banks. Biafra not in position to win and Ojukwu views war as holding action until FMG tires of cost. To Ojukwu and many advisers war will end when foreign involvement ends. Mbanefo says QTE War would be over tomorrow if Britain decided to stop supplying Lagos UNQTE. Biafra little success in getting foreign assistance. Some African countries extend sympathy but not recognition. Portugal permits planes, war materiel pass through Lisbon to PH, but has not provided foreign currency credits according reliable sources. About 45 mercs under Faulques training recruits and fighting near Calabar, but departing due lack of equipment. Among mercs remaining is QTE American of Puerto Rican descent who calls himself Johnny. UNQTE. He believed have led company rebel troops in November Onitsha battle. Biafrans believe as long FMG receives financial and military support of UK, USSR, money will remain biggest problem.

END

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2 FEB 68 00 232

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Origin
Info:

ACTION: Amembassy LAGOS

STATE

1. Following summary Astrachan article Washington Post 31 January: Ojukwu said Sunday he wants peace but preparing for 3 years of combat. These sentiments evident during nearly 700 miles of travel through 8 Biafran centers. After 6 months of war Biafran mobilization headed by these measures: 1) Use of white mercs on each side, which both sides denied until Ojukwu's guarded admission Sunday. 2) Barrage of words about FMG intentions of genocide. Propaganda stems from slaughter 30,000 Ibos in North and reinforced by fact Nigerian planes supplied mostly by USSR and piloted mostly by Egyptians have bombed number of schools and hospitals in Biafra. 3) Control verging on repression of political and tribal discontent lest small number of dissenters corrode high morale of majority of Biafrans. 4) Rapid issue of new currency said to equal \$148.4 million. Biafra got out own new currency with more speed and less trouble than Lagos reported for itself, while converting sizeable amounts of Nigerian notes into foreign currencies before Lagos deadline. 5) Increasing economic self-sufficiency. Despite trickle of imports Biafra can supply own clothing food and oil (if can keep Port Harcourt refinery operating). QTE People's resistance in face of catastrophe in modern sector of economy is astonishing UNQTE.

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Ojukwu said can continue 3 to 4 more years QTE if nothing drastic happens UNQTE, apparently meaning major FMG escalation with increased foreign help. Though he underscored military problems and determination, gave considerable emphasis to Biafran interest in peace. Biafra has generally sounded more interested than Nigeria in opportunities for talks. Because Lagos took military initiative to preserve territorial integrity it must assert need for military solution if Biafra refuses its terms for negotiations. Biafra can put peace first and self-defense second in its statements, though usually insists on Biafran sovereignty. Lagos expressed readiness for talks only with someone other than Ojukwu and only if secession renounced. Gowon dropped demand for deposition of Ojukwu with OAU mission but revived it January 5. Sunday Ojukwu stated clearly interest in peace but equivocal on sovereignty. QTE We started the crisis believing in peace. Only answer can be by negotiation and settlement. We sought protection of our lives and property. So far their posture is that we have no right to it. As soon as they are prepared even to discuss this we can talk. UNQTE. Asked if question of sovereignty could be put aside, Ojukwu said, QTE I believe sovereignty in the absolute is essential to give us the form of protection we require. UNQTE. When pressed on whether ad hoc approach ignoring sovereignty issue possible, Ojukwu said QTE One cannot decide at this point. It would be process over many years. UNQTE. Several newsmen interpreted this as meaning compromise on sovereignty or agreement to ignore it possible. Others felt it only reflected interest in future economic ties with rump Nigeria. Ojukwu later told TV interviewers QTE There can be no compromise on sovereignty. UNQTE.

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2. Following summary Astrachan article Washington Post 1 February. Two papal envoys and French merc agree civil war could go out of control and result in extremes of atrocities and general massacre. Ojukwu said only FMG employs mercs in organized force, but admitted Biafra has a number of mercs including Britons, French, and that he has been in touch with Faulques. Implied Biafra had insufficient funds to hire as many as would like. According reports verified Lagos and London 30 mercs including technical military advisers with FMG and John Peters reliably believed ready to provide large group English-speaking mercs if March 31 deadline not achieved. Approximately 35 French mercs live Shell BP compound and believed intended for attack Bonny and defense Port H. Port H vital but its fall would not completely isolate Biafra because new runway capable of jets being constructed somewhere south of Onitsha on converted highway. Nigerian planes bombed refinery but mystery why unable to destroy it, make airport unusable or intercept prop planes entering Biafra by night. Implies MIG pilots fear night fighting and have no equipment for it. MIGs destroyed considerable part Mary Slessor Hospital NW of Calabar during two raids killing 5. Schools closed since July. Biafran troops killed some civilians during Mid-West occupation but Feds killed at least 5000 in Mid West (2000 or more at Asaba where 700 Ibo men shot in one massacre) and at least 1000 in Calabar. These figures confirmed in Lagos. Lagos reports put FMG army at 75,000 men, Biafrans claim 30,000 in army and approximately same number in militia. Onitsha entirely in Biafran hands. FMG force crossing Niger from north divided, one column moving halfway Nsukka to Onitsha. Other moving southeast to cut off Biafran movements toward Enugu, which now held by Nigerian troops in daytime while Biafrans patrol some streets at night. Fighting between Nsukka and Onitsha may be heaviest in war. FMG unable seal Cameroon border, as travelers report passage difficult but not impossible.

END

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POL 27 BIAFRA - NIGERIA

108776

2 FEB 68 00 24z

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Origin

ACTION: Amembassy LAGOS

Info:

Garrison

1. Following summary/article 31 January NY Times. Ojukwu called for cease-fire and unconditional negotiations to end war at news conference Sunday in Umuahia including more than 20 American and European journalists who landed in darkness Friday at Port Harcourt. Ojukwu candid, conceding mercs present and that he looking for more, conceding blockade had hurt economy and that reserves running short. Just after press conference MIGs would bombed homes in suburbs. Ojukwu stressed he ~~could~~ welcome outside mediation QTE by any impartial body UNQTE such as OAU, Commonwealth Secretariat, suggested Britain might still play role as QTE honest broker UNQTE. FMG dominated by North has repeatedly asserted sole aim of war to crush Ojukwu and clique and reintegrate Ibos and other minority tribes with rest of federation, but Ibos skeptical of sincerity assurances toward Ibo civilians. Most Ibos view war as act of genocide and impression reinforced by reported bombing of schools and hospitals almost daily and reports of indiscriminate slaying of Ibos during FMG advances. Ojukwu claimed QTE in sovereignty ~~is~~ the absolute UNQTE essential to protect region from QTE d blockbath UNQTE, but when pressed on whether some aspects of sovereignty negotiable, he left impression there was room for give and take, saying QTE these pseudopolitical words like sovereignty tend to confuse the matter.

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Drafted by:

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When you go into negotiations what you carry in your bag must be yours to start with. A lot depends on spirit of negotiations, their timing and confidence you have in other party. UNQTE Observers in Umahia doubted Lagos would be responsive to Ojukwu's call for talks without preconditions. Despite fact fighting defensive war on four fronts, Biafra seems to be holding its own and FMG claims to enter Port Harcourt suburbs last week proved false. Despite Ojukwu talk of military weakness, he insisted determined to fight to end if negotiated solution not forthcoming. Said he needed arms, equipment, ammo, but money most important. Fact Biafra completed conversion to new currency in only three days indicates public support for regime and war. Ojukwu ~~xx~~ accused FMG of employing QTE army of mercs, UNQTE including mostly British, S. Africans, Muslim Africans. Admitted employing ^{not} Faulques but said 45-man Faulques group being phased out/because of money but QTE for other reasons UNQTE. This confirmed at PH where most mercs in Shell-BP compound waiting for plane to return to Europe. According to spokesman, they had been promised heavy arms that had never arrived.

Following

2. ~~Excerpting~~ summary Garrison article NY Times one Feb. War troubles recede in Eastern Region on Saturday night, the time for going to open-air dance halls. But evidence of war just around corner, where houses gutted in air raid three weeks ago. One half mile away lay ruins of Aba textile mill, also ~~xx~~ said to have been destroyed by Russian and British jets recently supplied to Nigerian air force for war against secessionists. Britian and USSR have backed effort by FMG to keep Nigeria united, contending any secessionist movement in Africa can only lead to Balkanization of continent. Britain is the major source of arms and ammo for

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Page 3 of telegram to LAGOS

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federal forces. US has remained officially neutral. To most Ibos true aim of war genocide. Despite odds they feel no alternative but fight on. Biafran army has requisitioned trucks and taxis, paying owners for each day vehicles used. Many high ~~xxxx~~ school girls have volunteered for Red Cross or militia, where they stand out at roadblocks in form-fitting khaki ~~xxxx~~ ^{blacks} and QTE long live Biafra ~~XXXX~~ T-shirts UNQTE. Biafra's TV transmitters have survived bombing. Because of blockade old American movies being reshownd. News casts and patriotic programs frequently open with brief recitation of Irish revolutionary ~~xxxx~~ ^{poetry} and close with song We Shall Overcome. Biafran Sun shortened by scarcity of newsprint exhorts farmers produce more yams and rice. Prices of both lower than before war. Canned milk, sugar, ~~x~~ salt, corned beef still obtainable from smugglers who run ~~xx~~ naval blockade by canoe from Fernando Po, but cost doubled. Foreign newsmen frequently ~~xxxx~~ besieged by residents seeking assurance outside world has not forgotten ~~xxxx~~ them and expressing determination fight on.

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POL 27 BIAFRA - NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 01 LOME 00537 011222Z

42
ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 03, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10,
P 04, RSC 01, SC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SCA 02, PPT 02, IO 13, SAH 03,
RSR 01, MM 01, /117 W

R 010900Z FEB 68
FM AMEMBASSY LOME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1412
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA 255
AMCONSUL IBIDAN 01
AMEMBASSY LAGOS 263
AMEMBASSY LONDON 29

C O N F I D E N T I A L LOME 537

REF.: LAGOS 6272

SUBJ: QUAKER MEDIATORS

1. JOHN VOLKMAR WELL KNOWN TO EMBASSY SINCE HIS ARRIVAL
WITH WIFE IN LOME ABOUT TWO YEARS AGO TO RUN QUAKER INTERNATIONAL
CONFERENCES CENTER. VOLKMAR HAS ORGANIZED FOUR TO SIX CONFERENCES
GROUPING WEST AFRICAN FRANCOPHONES AND ANGLOPHONES IN TOGO,
IVORY COAST, NIGERIA, AND ELSEWHERE FOR DISCUSSIONS BROAD RANGE

PAGE 2 RUFNCR 537II C O N F I D E N T I A L
SUBJECTS GENERALLY CENTERING ON ROLE OF INDIVIDUAL IN NATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT.

2. NO INFORMATION AVAILABLE ON PRESENT "PEACE MISSION."

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By MVA Date 10/5/05



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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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TR POL 27 BIAFRA -
NIGERIA

CONFIDENTIAL 056

PAGE 01 LOME 00540 011545Z

42
ACTION AF 15

INFO CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 03, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04,

RSC 01, SC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, EUR 15, SAH 03, E 15, AID 28,

RSR 01, MM 01, 143 W

R 011400Z FEB 68
FM AMEMBASSY LOME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1413
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS 264

C O N F I D E N T I A L LOME 540

REF: LOME 519

1. TOGO'S CLAIM TO LARGE PERCENTAGE OF SEIZED NIGERIAN CURRENCY REPORTEDLY HAS MET WITH FLAT REFUSAL FROM GON WHICH INSISTS MONEY VALUELESS. IN EFFORT PRESSURE GON, WORD APPARENTLY LET OUT BY TOGOLESE THAT GOT CONSIDERING TRYING EIGHT PERSONS INVOLVED, IMPOSING HEAVY FINE ON THEM, AND RELEASING THEM WITH AIRPLANE, WHILE AT SAME TIME REQUESTING GON RETURN CURRENCY TURNED OVER BY TOGO. THIS POSSIBLE MOVE EXPECTED TROUBLE NIGERIANS WHO WOULD LIKE ACCESS TO GROUP LEADER, CANADIAN CITIZEN, KURT WALLERSTEINER, AND TO AIRPLANE. WALLERSTEINER NOTORIOUS FOR SHADY DEALINGS IN NIGERIA BEFORE AND SINCE CIVIL WAR, WHILE

PAGE 2 RUFNCR 54011 C O N F I D E N T I A L
AIRPLANE IN QUESTION BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN USED PREVIOUSLY FOR ILLEGAL TRANSPORT OF ARMS FOR "BIAFRANS."
2. STALEMATED SITUATION HAS TOGOLESE ANGRY AT NIGERIANS FOR UNWILLINGNESS EXCHANGE PORTION OF MONEY THEY OTHERWISE MAY HAVE LOST IN ENTIRETY, WHILE NIGERIANS ANNOYED AT TOGOLESE EFFORT

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PAGE 01 PARIS 09837 012052Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 03, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10,

P 04, RSC 01, SC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SAH 03, MM 01, NSA 02, RSR 01,

IO 13, AID 28, E 15, COM 08, INT 06, DOT 10, 182 W

DECLASSIFICATION DATE 6/23/00

PER Sherman OFFICE CDC

FADRC FOI CASE NO. 7902835

R 011610Z FEB 68
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9139
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA 107
AMEMBASSY LAGOS 271
AMEMBASSY LISBON 681
AMEMBASSY LONDON 3851
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 175

0127 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
PPB 9-5 BIAFRA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PARIS 9837

SUBJ: AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE COVERAGE OF "BIAFRA"

REF: LAGOS 6307 012-23-68

1. AFP STORY DATED LINED PORT HARCOURT JAN. 30 (COPIES POUCHED AFW, LAGOS AND LONDON) MAY BE COMPLEMENT TO STORY REPORTED REFTEL. IT

PAGE 2 RUFNCR 9837 C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
QUOTES OJUKWU AS SAYING THEY CAN HOLD FOR THREE OR FOUR YEARS IF
NECESSARY, AND THAT POPULATION PREPARING FOR GUERRILLA WAR. RE-
PORTER SAYS HE VISITED ONITSHA AND DAWES ISLAND WHICH SOLIDLY
HELD BY REBELS. ACCORDING TO "BIAFRA" GENERAL STAFF, ONLY TWO
TROUBLESOME AREAS MILITARILY ARE SOUTH OF NSUKKA AND CALABAR.

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PAGE 02 PARIS 09837 012052Z

WMPIUS OKIGBO QUOTED AS ADMITTING EFFECTIVENESS OF LAND AND SEA BLOCKADE BUT AFFIRMING THAT NO "ESSENTIAL PRODUCTS" LACKING AND SAYING THAT AMPLE SUPPLIES OF VEHICLES AND GASOLINE FOR AT LEAST ONE YEAR. ESSENTIAL IMPORTS ARRIVE VIA AIRPORT AT PORT HARCOURT SERVED BY SIX SUPER CONSTELLATIONS "BELONGING TO PRIVATE AMERICAN COMPANY" FLYING OUT OF LISBON.

3. OJUKWU REPORTED AS SAYING NO IMMEDIATE (POLITICAL) SOLUTION IN VIEW SO LONG AS PRESENT MILITARY EQUILIBRIUM LASTS. ONLY CONTACT BETWEEN "TWO PARTIES" IS CANADIAN MISSIONARY BUT OJUKWU UNWILLING SAY MORE ON THIS POINT. "GREAT BRITAIN WOULD HAVE BEEN IDEAL MEDIATOR", OJUKWU SAID AT PRESS CONFERENCE, HAD IT NOT ADOPTED ANTI-BIAFRA ATTITUDE DURING COURSE OF CONFLICT. HE DENIED HAVING "ANY CONTACT WHATSOEVER WITH BRITAIN AT PRESENT".

PAGE 3 RUFNCR 9837 C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
4. THIS AFP STORY HAS NO REFERENCE TO DENARD AND FAULQUES ALTHOUGH OJUKWU REPORTED ADMITTING PRESENCE SOME MERCENARIES. HOWEVER, WE HAVE HEARD FROM RELIABLE JOURNALISTS AND FROM SOURCE AT QUAI THAT DENARD IS IN PARIS. THERE IS UNCERTAINTY AS TO WHEREABOUTS FAULQUES.

5. AFP ALSO CARRIES STORY DATED LINED ZURICH JAN. 29 ON "AERIAL BALLET OF NIGERIAN POUNDS". STORY DESCRIBES FANTASTICALLY INEPT EFFORTS UNLOAD NIGERIAN POUNDS OF "BIAFRAN" ORIGIN IN SWITZERLAND AND BEIRUT ENDING IN "FIASCO" WITH TONS OF WORTHLESS MONEY IN LOME, BEIRUT AND ZURICH. (COPIES POUCHED LAGOS AND AFW). BOHLEN

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 03, H 02, INR 07, LI 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10,

P 04, RSC 01, SC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SAH 03, SCS 04, SCA 02,

RSR 01/105 W

R 101025Z FEB 68
FM AMEMBASSY LOME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1427
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA 256
AMCONSUL IBADAN 02
AMEMBASSY LAGOS 266
AMEMBASSY LONDON 30
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY 130

C O N F I D E N T I A L LOME 567

REF: LOME 537

SUBJ: QUAKER MEDIATORS

VOLKMAR (PROTECT SOURCE) GAVE DCM IN STRICT CONFIDENCE FOLLOWING
INFORMATION FEBRUARY 9 REGARDING QUAKER MEDIATION ATTEMPT:

1. IDEA ORIGINATED IN CONVERSATION WITH NIGER PRESIDENT DIORI

PAGE 2 RUENCR 56711 C O N F I D E N T I A L
LAST NOVEMBER AND WAS APPROVED BY AFSC HEADQUARTERS.

2. MEETING WITH GOWON IN LAGOS WENT SUFFICIENTLY WELL TO
ENCOURAGE QUAKERS PLAN VISIT "BIAFRA" IN ABOUT TWO WEEKS FOR
MEETINGS THERE. GOWON AGREED COMPLETE MILITARY VICTORY UNLIKELY

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AND EVEN IF ACHIEVED WOULD LEAVE PROLONGED UNSETTLED SITUATION. GOWON DOUBTED AGREEMENT COULD BE REACHED WITH OJUKWU PERSONALLY, BUT HE WILLING EXPLORE POSSIBLE AGREEMENT WITH OTHER EASTERN NIGERIAN LEADERS.

3. QUAKER EFFORT SEEKS ARRANGE SECRET, UNPUBLICIZED MEETINGS PROBABLY IN GENEVA BETWEEN MIDDLE-LEVEL OFFICIALS BOTH SIDES TO PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY FREE RANGING DISCUSSION AREAS OF DIFFERENCES AND POSSIBLE AGREEMENT. IT UNDERSTOOD NO COMMITMENTS WOULD BE MADE BY EITHER SIDE. IF MEETINGS THIS LEVEL SUCCESSFUL, FURTHER MEETINGS WOULD BE ARRANGED AT HIGHER LEVEL IN HOPE OF LEADING EVENTUALLY TOP-LEVEL DISCUSSIONS.

GP-3. SHERER

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 03, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10,

P 04, RSC 01, SC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SAH 03, NSA 02, MM 01, RSR 01,

AID 28, E 15, COM 08, INT 06, 159 W

0 311635Z JAN 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9169
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA 1545
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 368
AMEMBASSY LONDON 2052
AMEMBASSY LISBON 076
RFNCR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 758
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 1011
AMCONSUL IBADAN 1600
AMCONSUL KADUNA 2111

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PASS IBS AFRICA DIVISION

REF: LAGOS 6271

PAGE 2 RUTALS 6307CC C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

SUBJECT: FURTHER INFO ON OJUKWU PRESS CONFERENCE

1. FBIS KADUNA JANUARY 30 MONITORED AFP REPORT FROM PARIS
GIVING FURTHER DETAILS ON OJUKWU'S WORLD PRESS CONFERENCE
HELD JANUARY 28 IN UMUAHIA. REPORT SAID NINETEEN AMERICAN

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AND EUROPEAN CORRESPONDENTS HAD BEEN FLOWN IN FROM EUROPE THAT THEY RETURNED TO LISBON JANUARY 30.

2. OJUKWU ACKNOWLEDGED PRESENCE OF "SMALL NUMBER OF EUROPEANS IN BIAFRA'S ARMED FORCES BUT, CHIEFLY FOR FINANCIAL REASONS, BIAFRA HAD NOT SUCCEEDED IN RECRUITING AN ORGANIZED FORCE OF MERCENARIES". FOREIGNERS FELL INTO THREE CATEGORIES: TECHNICIANS WHO CAME FOR THREE OR FOUR WEEKS TO FAMILIARIZE SOLDIERS WITH NEW EQUIPMENT, FEW WHO LIVE IN "BIAFRA" AND HAVE VOLUNTEERED THEIR SERVICES, AND FEW WHO HAVE COME TO "BIAFRA BELIEVING IN OUR CAUSE". THERE IS SMALL NUMBER OF FRENCHMEN WITH ARMED FORCES, NOT THIRTY AS REPORTED, BUT MAJORITY ARE ENGLISH. NUMBER OF FOREIGNERS ON "BIAFRAN" SIDE "NOTHING TO COMPARE WITH VAST ARMY OF MERCENARIES

PAGE 3 RUTALS 6307CC C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE EMPLOYED" BY FMG.

3. OJUKWU SAID RENE FAULQUES TWICE CAME TO "BIAFRA" BUT LEFT FOR GOOD TOWARD END LAST YEAR "AS WE WERE NOT ABLE TO MAKE FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS". ROBERT DENARD NEVER SHOWED UP IN "BIAFRA".

4. REUTERS JANUARY 31 REPORT ON OJUKWU'S PRESS CONFERENCE SAID: "ON WHETHER BIAFRA WOULD INSIST ON SOVEREIGNTY OR WHETHER IT WAS WILLING TO ENTER A CONFEDERATION WITH OTHER NIGERIAN STATES HE SAID HE BELIEVED SOVEREIGNTY WAS NECESSARY FOR BIAFRA BUT A LOT WOULD DEPEND ON THE SPIRIT OF NEGOTIATIONS AND THEIR TIMING".

5. REUTERS ADDS THAT OJUKWU ADMITTED NIGERIA'S BLOCKADE HITTING "BIAFRA" HARD. HE SAID THAT ALTHOUGH OIL CONCESSIONS OF SHELL/BP WERE STILL VALID HE COULD NOT SAY WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF PRESENT BRITISH POLICY CONTINUED. "IN ANY CASE OTHER FOREIGN INVESTORS WISHING TO TAKE OUT OIL LEASES IN BIAFRA WOULD BE WELCOMED".

EXEMPT. MATHEWS

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 06271 311636Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 03, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10,

P 04, RSC 01, SC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, IO 13, ACDA 16, NSA 02,

RSR 01, AID 28, MM 01, 156 W

R 301730Z JAN 68 ZFD
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9149
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA 1539
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 367
AMEMBASSY LONDON 2049
AMEMBASSY LISBON 074
AMEMBASSY PARIS 756
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 1009
AMCONSUL KADUNA 2102
AMCONSUL IBADAN 1595

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SUBJ: "RADIO BIAFRA" ON CONSULTATIVE ASSEMBLY AND WORLD PRESS
CONFERENCE

PAGE 2 RUTALS 6271CC C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

1. "RADIO BIAFRA" AS MONITORED BY FBIS SAYS JOINT MEETING
COUNCIL OF CHIEFS AND ELDERS AND CONSULTATIVE ASSEMBLY HELD
JANUARY 27. OJUKWU TOLD MEETING THAT "BIAFRA" IS STILL PRE-
PARED TO NEGOTIATE PEACE WITH NIGERIA UNDER AUSPICES OF COMMON-
WEALTH, UN, OAU OR ANY NON-POLITICAL INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION".
HE SAID "WORLD IS BEGINNING TO UNDERSTAND THAT IS A PEOPLE'S

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WAR OF SURVIVAL". JOINT MEETING CONGRATULATED "HEAD OF STATE" ON INTRODUCING NEW CURRENCY AND STAMPS, CONDEMNED ANGLO-SOVIET INVOLVEMENT IN WAR AND REASSURED OJUKWU OF UNYIELDING SUPPORT OF ALL "BIAFRANS". ALSO URGED OJUKWU "TO CONTINUE TO SEEK PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO CRISIS WHICH WILL GUARANTEE TO BIAFRANS RIGHT TO DETERMINE THEIR OWN POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC DESTINY". ASSEMBLY REGRETTED THAT ACTION HAD NOT BEEN TAKEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH RESOLUTION OF LAST OCTOBER TO PROMOTE OJUKWU TO RANK FULL GENERAL AND URGED ARMY COUNCIL ADHERE TO WISH OF ASSEMBLY. ON SAME DAY OJUKWU ANNOUNCED PROMOTION OF BRIG PHILIP EFIONG AND BRIG ALEXANDER MADIEBE TO MAJOR GENERAL

2° ON JANUARY 29 "RADIO BIAFRA" REPORTED THAT OJUKWU HAD

PAGE 3 RUTALS 6271CC C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
ADDRESSED "CROWDED WORLD PRESS CONFERENCE", EXPRESSING DELIGHT THAT MEMBERS WORLD PRESS HAD "DESPITE ALL ODDS BEEN ABLE TO COME" SO WORLD CAN LEARN TRUTH ABOUT WAR (FBIS N292050). OJUKWU EMPHASIZED "FACT THAT BIAFRA HAS OFTEN REPEATED THAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR NOTHING MORE THAN NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT OF PRESENT BLOODY CONFLICT. WE ARE PREPARED TO STATE OUR CASE BEFORE ANY IMPARTIAL BODY CONFIDENT THAT OUR CASE AND CAUSE ARE JUST". HOPED CORRESPONDENTS WOULD MAKE CLEAR TO WORLD THAT THIS NOT MERELY STRUGGLE OF "AN INDIVIDUAL AND A FEW OTHERS".

3° ASSOCIATED PRESS REPORT FROM LISBON SAYS GROUP OF NEWSMEN FLEW JANUARY 26 TO PORT HARCOURT UNDER AUSPICES OF HOLLYWOOD PUBLIC RELATIONS FIRM REPRESENTING GOVERNMENT OF "BIAFRA". THIS AP REPORT, WHICH WAS IN BALTIMORE SUN (DATE 106019), WAS ALSO CARRIED IN INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE JAN. 27-28. VISIT OF THESE NEWSMEN APPARENTLY OCCASION OF PRESS CONFERENCE WHICH PROBABLY TOOK PLACE JANUARY 27 OR 28. "RADIO BIAFRA" REPORTED THAT NEWSMEN ATTENDED JOINT MEETING OF COUNCIL OF CHIEFS AND ELDERS AND CONSULTATIVE ASSEMBLY.

EXEMPT.
MATHEWS

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*Liapa 6272
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PAGE 01 LAGOS 06272 311325Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 03, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00,
NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, PPT 02, SCA 02, SY 03,
MM 01, RSR 01, FBI 01, 118 W

R 301800Z JAN 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9150
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA 1540
AMEMBASSY LOME 389
AMEMBASSY LONDON 2050
AMCONSUL IBADAN 1596
AMCONSUL KADUNA 2103

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 6272

SUBJ: QUAKER MEDIATORS ARRIVE NIGERIA

1. ETHIOPIAN AMBASSADOR HERE VAGUELY QUERIED EMBASSY
CONCERNING "TWO AMERICANS COMING LAGOS FROM ACCRA ON
PEACE MISSION". ETHIOPIAN AMBASSADOR ACCRA HAD ALERTED
HIM TO RECEIVE THESE TWO VISITORS. TODAY THE TWO MEN
CALLED AT ETHIOPIAN EMBASSY, LEAVING CARDS IDENTIFYING
THEM AS ADAM CURLE, DIRECTOR OF CENTER FOR STUDIES IN

PAGE 2/RUTALS 6272CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
EDUCATION, HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AD
JOHN VOLKMAR OF INTERNATIONAL DIALOGUES, WHO IS NOW
LOCATED AT LOME. AMBASSADOR SAID HE LEARNED CURLE IS
BRITISH; VOLKMAR AMERICAN, AND BOTH ARE QUAKERS.

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2. AS ETHIOPIAN AMBASSADOR UNDERSTANDS IT, CURLE AND VOLKMAR REGARD THEIR "MISSION" AS SECRET; THEY DO NOT PLAN CONTACT BRITISH OR AMERICAN REPRESENTATIVES HERE, BUT HOPE TO HAVE DIRECT DISCUSSIONS WITH GENERAL GOWON. AS OF COB JAN. 30 WE HAVE NO FURTHER INFO ON ACTIVITIES THIS SELF-APPOINTED "PEACE MISSION", BUT WILL BE ALERT LEST YET ANOTHER WELL-MEANING BUT PERHAPS ILL-ADVISED "MEDIATOR" RUN AFOUL FMG SENSITIVITIES.

GP-3.
MATHEWS

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Po/27 Biafra- 31
Nigeria

SECRET 660

PAGE 01 LUANDA 00412 291453Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, CIAE 00, DODE 00, INR 07, NSAE 00, P 04, RSC 01, USIA 12, SS 20,
GPM 03, RSR 01, MM 01, /079 W

P R 291030Z JAN 68
FM AMCONSUL LUANDA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 693
INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON 414
AMEMBASSY LAGOS 50
USDAO/LISBON
USDAO/PRETORIA
AMEMBASSY DAKAR 04
AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE 01

S E C R E T LUANDA 412

TANANARIVE FOR MAURITIUS

SUBJ: UNMARKED AIRCRAFT DAKAR AND SAO TOME

REF: LUANDA 393

1. USDAO PRETORIA PASSED ON TO US FOLLOWING OBSERVATIONS
DURING STOPOVER JAN 27 ENROUTE LISBON TO RSA.

2. JAN 25 AT AIRPORT DAKAR, SENEGAL, ONE CONSTELLATION,
ORANGE AND WHITE, A PHOTOAIRCRAFT, MARKINGS "SAR" (WHICH HE
ALSO SAW AT YOF LAST NOV 18 AND 19, AND WHITE CONSTELLATION WITH
BLUE STRIPE MARKED "GUWAARBD." BOTH OTHERWISE UNMARKED AND

PAGE 2 RUEHCR 412 S E C R E T
DISPLAYED NO NATIONALITY MARKINGS.

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3. JAN 26 - SAO TOME ISLAND: R. O. SAW TWO SUPER G CONSTELLATIONS ON PARKING APRON, SALAZAR AIRPORT, (A) WHITE AND BLUE WITH MARKINGS "ST-TMC" (ONE ENGINE APPEARED DAMAGED BY FIRE); (B) WHITE AND BLUE WITH WIDE STRIPE BELOW WINDOW LINE, MARKINGS "ST-TAF" (#3 ENGINE SHOWED HEAVY TFLOSS). BOTH OTHERWISE UNMARKED.

4. PORTUGUESE AIR FORCE COMMANDER TO TOME CLAIMED THESE TWO AIRCRAFT ARRIVED 26 JAN FROM MAURITIUS ISLAND, AND THAT HE KNEW NOTHING CONCERNING THEIR DESTINATION OR WHEREABOUTS CREW.

SUMM

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106019
27 JAN 68 18 38z
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Origin
Info:

ACTION: Amembassy LAGOS PRIORITY
Amembassy LISBON PRIORITY

INFO: Amembassy PARIS
Amembassy LONDON

STATE _____

SUBJECT: Arms Aid to Biafra

Following text, unnecessary words omitted, AP article Baltimore Sun, 27 January

~~LISBON~~
BEGIN TEXT Details of secret movement arms, ammunition, manpower supplies from Portugal to Nigeria's secessionist state of Biafra were revealed here today. Personnel involved in clandestine airlift between Lisbon and Port Harcourt told of the operation in connection with the flight of planeload of foreign newsmen into that beleaguered African territory. The newsmen being flown to Biafra under auspices Hollywood public relations firm representing Biafran Government of Ojukwu. Objective, as explained by trip's organizer, Robert Goldstein, to present Biafran side of story in attempt to obtain public sympathy and aid. But it has also served to confirm persistent speculation of what could be considered Portugal's indirect assistance to Biafran rebels, despite official denials that it was in any way involved. Portugal permits two separate groups operate airlifts of supplies from Lisbon to Port Harcourt, according to personnel involved. A number of four-engine Constellations make refueling stops in Guinea and Sao Tome Island on way between the

106019

Drafted by: AF/AFW/DFS Smith/clw 1-27-68
Tel. Ext. 2946
Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: AF/AFW - R.M. Melbourne
Clearances: AFP: R. Peltier (substance)

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two points. Plane crews, which include number of Americans, Rhodesians and Frenchmen based here. One group made up primarily of Americans who have lived in Europe for a number of years. Others are on leave from airlines in US. They have three planes and often make about four flights a week to Port Harcourt. Other group operates with undetermined number of aircraft and is reportedly composed primarily of Rhodesians, with some French. ~~XXXXXXXX~~ Cargo is loaded at Lisbon International Airport and France is said to be a big supplier, but this was impossible to confirm. ~~End~~ Goldstein said Biafra owed him "a six-figure amount." He added this was first foreign account his firm had handled. It usually handled American film actors. One of American crew members said they were paid in Portuguese escudos, which they converted to US dollars here. Refused to say who did actual paying, or what salaries were, although indicated pay good. END TEXT.

End

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POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
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TELEGRAM

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 06201 271638Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 03, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00,
NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, NSA 02, SAH 03, E 15,
COM 08, INT 06, TRSY 08, SIL 01, LAB 06, IGA 02, AID 28, RSR 01, MM 01,
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1-27-68
Lagos 6201

R 270950Z JAN 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9110
INFO USMISSION GENEVA 098
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS 92
AMCONSUL IBADAN 1583
AMCONSUL KADUNA 2089

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BRUSSELS FOR BUSEC

SUBJECT: FMG CONSIDERING COMPULSORY ARBITRATION DECREE

1. COMMISSIONER FOR INFORMATION AND LABOR ENAHORO INVITED
NATIONAL LABOR CENTERS TO SEND TWO TOP REPRESENTATIVES EACH
TO LUNCHEON AT BRISTOL HOTEL JANUARY 22 (DATE OF INVITATION
WAS JANUARY 19). FOLLOWING ATTENDED: (A) FOR MINLABOR--
PERMSEC KOKU, DIRECTOR OF LABOR ADEKOYA; (B) FORULC--
GENSEC CHIEF ADELEKE; (C) FOR NTUC--PRESIDENT GOODLUCK;

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(D) FOR NWC--GENSEC CHUKWURA, ASSISTANT ENIGBOKAN; (E) FOR

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LABOR UNITY FRONT--CHAIRMAN ISHOLA, GENSEC ODULEYE.

2. ENAHORO SAID FMG DISTURBED OVER RECENT INCREASE IN STRIKES, STRIKE THREATS AND INDUSTRIAL UNREST. HE RECALLED THAT "YOUR COLLEAGUES ON THE LABOR ADVISORY COUNCIL" SOMETIME AGO RECOMMENDED COMPULSORY ARBITRATION IN INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES. HE SAID ACCORDINGLY FMG PROPOSED ENACT DECREE REQUIRING COMPULSORY ARBITRATION IN INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES. HOWEVER HE FIRST WISHED TO SOLICIT VIEWS OF ASSEMBLED TRADE UNION LEADERS.

3. ADELEKE APPARENTLY FAILED MAKE TELLING POINTS AGAINST SUCH A DECREE. HE DID NOT POINT OUT THAT PRACTICALLY ALL INSTANCES OF RECENT UNREST WERE OF NTUC MAKING. INSTEAD HE STRESSED "NEGATIVE ATTITUDE" OF EMPLOYERS AS CAUSE OF PROBLEM. HE ALSO INDICATED ULC WOULD GO ALONG WITH SUCH A DECREE "PROVIDED IT APPLIED EQUALLY TO BOTH SIDES". HEADED THE DECREE SHOULD NOT OUTLAW STRIKES ALTOGETHER, BUT "ONLY UNTIL AFTER ARBITRATION" (WHATEVER THAT MEANS), AND SHOULD LAST ONLY FOR DURATION OF CRISIS.

4. NWC AND LUF REPS VOICED SUBSTANTIALLY SIMILAR SENTIMENTS. GOODLUCK FOR NTUC NOT ONLY WARMLY WELCOMED PROPOSED DECREE,

PAGE 3 RUTALS 6201CC C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
BUT ASKED! "WHY NOT A DECREE COMPELLING TRADE UNION UNITY?"

5. ENAHORO PROBABLY CALLED MEETING TO GAUGE EXTENT OF POTENTIAL OPPOSITION TO THE DECREE TO BE EXPECTED FROM LABOR LEADERS. THE LATTER, AS USUAL, PERMITTED THEMSELVES LUXURY OF TAKING OFF-THE-CUFF POSITIONS ON A PROPOSAL OF THIS GRAITY, WITHOUT CONSULTING THEIR RESPECTIVE EXECUTIVES OR EVEN AMONG THEMSELVES.

6. HAVING SATISFIED HIMSELF THAT FMG COULD EXPECT MINIMAL OPPOSITION FROM NATIONAL CENTERS, ENAHORO FOLLOWED UP JANUARY 25TH WITH PRESS CONFERENCE STATEMENT EXPRESSING FMG "GRAVE CONCERN AT RAMPANT STRIKE ACTION, INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES, AND TRADE UNION PROBLEMS."

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7. "ASKED ABOUT SUGGESTION, THAT STRIKE ACTIONS BY WORKERS WOULD BE MADE ILLEGAL DURING THE PERIOD OF NATIONAL EMERGENCY", THE MORNING POST JANUARY 26 REPORTS, "CHIEF ENAHORO REPLIED THAT HE WAS PREPARED TO GIVE CONSIDERATION TO ANY SUGGESTION FROM ANY QUARTER. HE NOTED THAT STRIKE ACTIONS WERE BECOMING RATHER FREQUENT IN RECENT MONTHS AND ADDED: "THIS HAS BEEN EXERCISING MY MIND TOO MUCH". ENAHORO SAID HE PLANNED TO CONSULT EMPLOYER ORGANIZATIONS FOR THEIR VIEWS.

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8. COMMENT: THUS EXERCISE, TAKEN IN CONJUNCTION WITH A STATEMENT IN IBADAN BY MILGOV ADEBAYO JANUARY 24TH TO THE

EFFECT
THAT: "ANY STRIKE ACTION NOW FROM ANY SECTION OF THE NIGERIAN COMMUNITY WILL NOT ONLY BE IRRESPONSIBLE BUT WILL CONSTITUTE AN ACT OF SABOTAGE", MAY BE AN INDICATION OF INCREASING FMG NERVOUSNESS OVER POSSIBILITY OF SERIOUS LABOR UNREST. FMG MAY BE OVERREACTING, HOWEVER, SINCE IN VIEW MOST OBSERVERS SITUATION DOES NOT APPEAR SO SERIOUS AT THIS TIME.

9. ULC UNIONS, WITH FEW EXCEPTIONS HAVE NOT BEEN PARTICULARLY ACTIVE DURING CRISIS. BOTH ADEBOAL AND ADELEKE HAVE FREQUENTLY UNDERLINED ULC POSITION OF "NO STRIKES DURING CRISIS". SAME APPLIES TO NWC AND LUF UNIONS (RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS, CIVIL SERVICE).

10. NTUC UNIONS HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN PRACTICALLY ALL RECENT INSTANCES OF INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES, WHICH HAVE IN ANY CASE BEEN MOSTLY FOUGHT OUT IN PRESS STATEMENTS AND IN THE ADVANCE NEWSPAPER RATHER THAN ON PICKET LINE. FEW TOOK SERIOUSLY THE NTUC CALL LAST JULY FOR A MARCH ON THE WESTERN EMBASSIES. SOME OBSERVERS SUSPECT THE NTUC CAMPAIGN IN AUGUST FOR EXPROPRIATION OF OIL PROPERTIES ENJOYED OFFICIAL APPROVAL IF NOT ACTIVE

PAGE 5 RUTALS 6201CC C O I C F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
ENCOURAGEMENT.

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11. IN LABATT VIEW, PRINCIPAL POTENTIAL SOURCE OF GRASS ROOTS WORKER DISCONTENT IS THE VERY REAL REDUCTION IN TAKE HOME PAY RESULTING FROM 5 PERCENT COMPULSORY SAVINGS SCHEME, ON TOP OF 5 PERCENT PROVIDENT FUND DEDUCTION AND INCOME TAX WITHHOLDING.

12. THE SAVINGS SCHEME TOOK EFFECT ON JANUARY 3, UNFORTUNATELY (BUT PROBABLY DELIBERATELY) TIMED TO COINCIDE WITH THE EXPIRATION OF THE THREE MONTHS' VOLUNTARY 5PERCENT CONTRIBUTION TO THE TROOP CONFORT FUND, AND THE AVERAGE WORKER (WHO IS NOT CONDITIONED TO APPRECIATE "SAVING" OF ANY KIND) WHO LOOKS ON THE SCHEME AS ESTABLISHING A PERMANENT WAGE CUT, THE SAME APPLIES TO THE PROVIDENT FUND DEDUCTION. THE CIRCUMSTANCE THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO OVERALL RISE IN WAGE LEVELS SINCE THE CRISIS, WHILE PRICES OF DOMESTIC AND IMPORTED GOODS HAVE RISEN STEADILY SHARPENS THE POINT.

13. WHILE MOST TRADE UNION LEADERS HAVE IDENTIFIED INCREASED TAXES AND RISING COSTS AS SOURCE OF WORKER DISCONTENT, THERE IS LITTLE EVIDENCE TO DATE THAT ANY BUT NTUC HAVE LAID PLANS TO CHANNEL IT FOR THEIR OWN PURPOSES. GOODLUCK'S WARM REACTION TO PROPOSED DECREE IS INTERESTING TACTIC, SINCE NTUC RESPONSIBLE

PAGE 6 RUTALS 6201CC C O N F I D E N T I N H L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
FOR MOST OF RECENT AGITATION.

14. LABOR MINISTRY HAS BEEN INVOLVED IN RECENT INDUSTRIAL PROBLEMS, AND SHOULD BE BEST JUDGE OF NECESSITY SUCH DRASTIC LEGISLATION. EMBASSY SUSPECTS, HOWEVER, MINISTRY WANTS TO PLAY IT SAFE AND GET LEGISLATION ON BOOKS (WITH POLITICIAN ENAHORO CARRYING BALL) FOR USE LATER IF AND WHEN REQUIRED.
MATHEWS

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Jagoe 6202
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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, GPM 03, NSC 10, SC 01, SP 02, SS 20, RSC 01, SAH 03, L 03, H 02,

P 04, USIA 12, CIAE 00, INR 07, NSAC 00, NSA 02, IO 13, AID 26, PC 04,

RSR 01, MM 01, 147 W

R 271240Z JAN 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9111
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA 1532
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 364
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA 537
AMEMBASSY LONDON 2039
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY 876
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA 678
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 1005
DIA
6CINCSRIKE/CINCMFAFSA
AMCONSUL IBADAN 1584
AMCONSUL KADUNA 2090

UNCLAS LAGOS 6202

SUBJ: INFO COMMISSIONER CLARIFIES FMG POLICIES FOR PRESS

1. CHIEF ANTHONY ENAHORO, FMG INFORMATION COMMISSIONER, ADDRESSED PRESS AT LARGE PARTY JANUARY 26. RADIO AND NEWSPAPER CARRIED PRESS RELEASE ENTITLED "CHIEF ENAHORO CORRECTS PRESS SPECULATION ON MILITARY OPERATIONS AGAINST REBELS."

2. AFTER COMPLIMENTS TO PRESS FOR IMPROVED UNDERSTANDING AND COVERAGE OF NIGERIAN SITUATION, ENAHORO MENTIONED THREE AREAS OF MISAPPREHENSION. FIRST WAS "EXHORTATION" BY HEAD OF STATE GOWON FOR ALL TO "PUT SHOULDERS TO WHEEL AND END (WAR) BY MARCH 31, 1968."

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THIS WIDELY MISUNDERSTOOD AS FLAT PREDICTION OF END OF WAR. ENAHORO POINTED OUT MARCH 31 ONLY "TARGET DATE" AFTER WHICH "HEAVENS WON'T FALL" NOR WILL THERE BE DIFFERENT APPROACH TO SOLUTION BY FMG IF MILITARY VICTORY NOT YET ACHIEVED.

PAGE TWO RUDSLC 6202G UNCLAS

3. SECOND AREA OF MISUNDERSTANDING IS SLOWNESS OF MILITARY OPERATIONS. CONTRARY TO PRESS OPINION, SLOWNESS DUE TO FMG "RESTRAINT" IN EFFORT TO REDUCE DAMAGES AND CONVINCE "POPULACE IN REBEL AREAS THAT THIS IS NOT WAR AGAINST THEM AS A PEOPLE." THERE NO DOUBT, SAID ENAHORO, ABOUT ABILITY FMG TO SUPPRESS REBELLION AND "WE NOW APPROACHING STAGE AT WHICH WE CAN LOOK FORWARD TO EARLIEST END TO HOSTILITIES COMPATIBLE WITH RESTRAINT WE HAVE IMPOSED ON FEDERAL FORCES."

4. THIRD MISUNDERSTANDING AMONG PRESS IS ABOUT "WHAT WE ARE REALLY FIGHTING FOR." ACCORDING ENAHORO, FMG "FIGHTING TO CREATE MODERN NATION." "QUESTION IN NIGERIA TODAY IS WHETHER THERE IS TO BE NIGERIAN NATION OR CONGLOMERATION OF NATIONS(FMG) BELIEVES THAT SINGLE UNITED NATION CAN BE CREATED OUT OF NIGERIA AND WE REGARD PRESENT HOSTILITIES AS UNPLEASANT PART OF THIS GREAT TASK. CREATION OF SENSE OF NIGERIAN NATIONHOOD, CREATION OF MODERN NATION, IS SOLE JUSTIFICATION FOR CIVIL WAR."

PAGE THREE RUDSLC 6202G UNCLAS

5. ENAHORO CONCLUDED WITH REQUEST TO PRESS FOR "FACTUAL REPORTING, OBJECTIVE COMMENTING, AND INFORMED APPRECIATION OF BASIS ISSUES AND CURRENT EVENTS."

6. COMMENT: REPORTERS PRESENT GOT IMPRESSION THAT ENAHORO SPEECH PROBABLY MAIN FEATURE OF WELL-PLANNED EFFORT TO CLEAR MISUNDERSTANDING AND IMPROVE FMG CREDIBILITY WITH PRESS. MATHEWS

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, SCS 04, SCA 02, CIAE 00, DUDE 00, GPM 03, H 02, INR 07,
L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SR 01,
ORM 03, AID 28, MM 01, SR 01, 148 W

R 271400Z JAN 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9117
INFO AMEMBSSY LONDON 2041
USMISSION GENEVA 99
AMCONSUL IBADAN 1586
AMCONSUL KADUNA 2092

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 6208

SUBJ: RED CROSS DEVELOPMENTS

1. NATIONAL SECRETARY NIGERIAN RED CROSS, UDONDEK, CONFIRMED THAT THERE WILL BE FORMAL INTERNATIONAL APPEAL THROUGH ICRC FOR AID TO VICTIMS NIGERIAN CIVIL WAR. IN CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF JANUARY 26, UDONDEK SAID APPEAL WILL BE SUBMITTED TO GENEVA "IN WEEK OR TEN DAYS." MAIN ITEMS REQUIRED WILL BE MEDICINE, CLOTHING, HIGH PROTEIN FOOD AND TRANSPORT VEHICLES, ALTHOUGH UDONDEK UNABLE OR UNWILLING ASSIGN PRIORITIES WITHIN THESE BROAD GROUPS.

2. UDONDEK TOLD PRESS, AND TOLD EMBOFF HE QUOTED ACCURATELY, THAT

PAGE 2 RUTALS 6208CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
HE HEARD "REAL EXPLOSION" IN FORMER EASTERN REGION IN COMING MONTHS. HE FORESEES GROWING HEALTH PROBLEMS IN BIAFRA AND LIBERATED AREAS AS AREA AND BLOCKADE CONTINUES. AS FMG RE-ESTABLISHES

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PAGE 02 LAGOS 06208 271628Z

FEDERAL AUTHORITY IN REBEL AREAS AND BRINGS FIGHTING TO AN END
THERE WILL BE MORE SERIOUS PROBLEMS OF HOUSING, FEEDING, REFUGEE
CAMPS, ETC.

3. IN HEALTH FIELD, RECENT VISIT NORDIC RED CROSS COUNCIL OFFICIAL
RESULTED IN PROMISE AS YET UNSPECIFIED NUMBER HEALTH EDUCATION TEAMS
WHO WILL BEGIN ARRIVE MARCH. ADDITIONAL ICRC MEDICAL TEAM OF EIGHT
ARRIVING FEBRUARY 1, INCLUDES AT LEAST ONE AMERICAN. COMMENT:
THESE HELPFUL SIGNS BUT ARE DROP IN BUCKET IN RELATION KIND OF PRO-
BLEMS UDONEK JUSTIFIABLY WORRYING ABOUT.

GP-3. MATHEWS

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Pol 27 Biafra - Nigeria

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ACTION SS 70

INFO MM 01, /071 W

P 261758Z JAN 68
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1477

S E C R E T LONDON 5948

LIMDIS/NOFORN

REF: LONDON 5377 - *Pol 27 Biafra - Nigeria*

SUBJ: NIGERIA: COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT PEACE PACKAGE

[o SYG ARNOLD SMITH OF COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT TOLD US
IN STRICT CONFIDENCE TODAY (JANUARY 26) THAT HE SPOKE TO
IBO REPS, OKPARA, DIKE, MOJEKWU, YESTERDAY AND GAVE

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PAGE 2 RUDTCR 5948 S E C R E T
THEM OUTLINES OF CS PEACE PACKAGE (REFTEL). ACCORDING TO
SMITH, OKPARA, AS SENIOR MEMBER OF GROUP, HAD AGREED TO
FORWARD CS PROPOSAL TO OJUKWU AND URGE IT BE ACCEPTED AS
BASIS FOR NEGOTIATIONS WITH FMG. SMITH CONSIDERED THIS
ENCOURAGING SIGN SINCE ESSENTIAL ELEMENT OF CS PACKAGE
WAS IBO ACCEPTANCE NIGERIAN SOVEREIGNTY. SMITH THEN
SKETCHED OTHER PROVISIONS OF PROPOSAL ON CONDITION THAT
WE COMMUNICATE INFO ONLY TO DEPT FOR TIME BEING.
FOLLOWING ARE MAIN CONTENTS OF PACKAGE AS DESCRIBED BY
SMITH, WHO STRESSED THAT HE HAD PUT FORWARD BROAD LINES
OF SETTLEMENT AND OMITTED OR LEFT AMBIGUOUS MANY
DETAILS WHICH WOULD HAVE TO BE NEGOTIATED BY TWO
SIDES:

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2. IBOS WOULD ACCEPT SOVEREIGNTY AND UNITY OF NIGERIAN STATE BUT EXACT FORM AND ORGANIZATION OF STATE WERE NEGOTIABLE. FOR EXAMPLE, MIGHT BE COMMON-WEALTH OR FEDERATION BUT WHATEVER IT WAS CALLED CENTRAL AUTHORITY WOULD BE IN LAGOS AND THERE WOULD BE ONLY ONE

PAGE 3 RUDTCR 5948 S E C R E T
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS. IBOS, FOR THEIR PART, WOULD BE GIVEN GREATER INTERNAL AUTONOMY IN ENLARGED IBO OR IBO-DOMINATED STATE (WHICH MIGHT EVEN BE CALLED BIAFRA). PORT HARCOURT WOULD GO TO IBOS. FUTURE OF RIVERS AND CALABAR STATES WAS LEFT OPEN BUT MIGHT BE DECIDED BY PLERISCITE. INTERNAL SECURITY IN NEW IBO STATE WOULD BE PROVIDED BY IBOS THEMSELVES, I.E. NO OCCUPATION OF IBO-LAND BY FMG FORCES. POSSIBILITY WAS LEFT OPEN THAT INTERNATIONAL MILITARY PRESENCE MIGHT BE INTRODUCED TO SEPARATE OPPOSING SIDES DURING PERIOD OF TRANSITION TO NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT. PRECISE FORMULA FOR SHARING OF OIL REVENUES WOULD HAVE TO BE NEGOTIATED. WHILE IBOS WOULD PRESS FOR GREATER CONTROL OVER INTERNAL FINANCES, WITH LARGER SHARE OIL REVENUE, GREATER POWER LEVY TAXES, ETC., THEY WOULD ACCEPT ULTIMATE AUTHORITY CENTRAL GOVERNMENT MINISTRY OF FINANCE, COMMON CURRENCY AND EXTERNAL TARIFF, AND OTHER FEATURES OF FEDERAL ORGANIZATION. FUTURE NEGOTIATIONS WOULD ALSO DEAL WITH QUESTION OF COMMON SERVICES ALONG EAST AFRICAN LINES, WHICH IBOS FAVOR.

PAGE 4 RUDTCR 5948 S E C R E T

3. SMITH SAID THAT ABOVE PACKAGE WOULD NOT BE PRESENTED TO FMG UNTIL REACTION OF OJUKWU AND OTHER TOP IBOS HAD BEEN RECEIVED. HE COULD NOT PREDICT WHEN THIS WOULD HAPPEN, BUT THOUGHT OKPARA HAD BEEN SERIOUS ABOUT PRESENTING PROPOSAL TO OJUKWU AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. IF IBO LEADERSHIP ACCEPTED CS PACKAGE AS BASIS FOR

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NEGOTIATIONS, SMITH THOUGHT DEPLOMATIC PRESSURE MIGHT
HAVE TO BE USED WITH FMG TO GET NEGOTIATIONS STARTED.
HE HOPED BRITISH WOULD AGREE TO DO THIS AT APPROPRIATE
TIME. HE ALSO THOUGHT THAT US COULD BE HELPFUL BY
WEIGHING IN AT RIGHT MOMENT AND SAID HE WOULD
LET US KNOW IF HE WANTED OUR HELP IN LAGOS OR IN
LONDON.
BRUCE

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EUR <u>✓</u> <u>9</u>	NIC <u> </u> NSA <u> </u>	RM/R <u> </u>
BTF <u> </u> MF <u> </u>	PC <u> </u> STR <u> </u>	File <u> </u>
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IBADAN 361
1-26-68

PAGE 01 IBADAN 00361 291143Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15,USIE 00,CIAE 00,GPM 03,H 02,INR 07,L 03,NSAE 00,NSC 10,

P 04,RSC 01,SC 01,SP 02,SS 20,SAH 03,IO 13,ACDA 16,MC 01,GDP 01,

AID 28,MM 01,RSR 01,147 W

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P R 261540Z JAN 68
FM AMCONSUL IBADAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 484
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS 566
AMEMBASSY LONDON 336
AMCONSUL KADUNA 416
CINCSTRIKE/CINCMEAFSA UNN
DIA UNN
CINCLANT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE IBADAN 361

JOINT STATE/USIS MESSAGE
SUBJECT: FRENCH AID OJUKWU?

1. JANUARY 26 FRONT PAGE WESTERN GOVERNMENT OWNED "DAILY SKETCH"
BANNERED "OJUKWU SPURNS OAU AS ARMS AID FLOWS FROM FRANCE".
TEXT ARTICLE (UNNECESSARY WORDS OMITTED) FOLLOWS:

2. REBEL GOVERNMENT OF OJUKWU REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN RECEIVING
ARMS SUPPLY FROM FRANCE AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT FROM A CATHOLIC
ORGANIZATION IN ROME.

PAGE 2 RUTALS 36188 C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
3. INFORMED SOURCES REVEALED IN WAGOU YESTERDAY THAT ARMS

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PAGE 02 IBADAN 00361 291143Z

SUPPLY TO REBELS HAD BEEN PROVED TRUE IN VIEW OF RECENT FRENCH HELICOPTERS, MOTOR (SIC) BOMBS, AND OTHER ARMS AND AMMUNITION FRENCH MANUFACTURE RECENTLY SEIZED AND SEEN WITH REBELS.

4. LATEST BATCH MERCENARIES FIGHTING FOR REBELS NOW KNOWN TO BE OF FRENCH NATIONALITY, SOURCE SAID".

5. SOURCE SAID THAT ALTHOUGH FRENCH GOVERNMENT HAS GIVEN NO OFFICIAL SANCTION THIS SUPPLY ARMS TO REBELS IT STILL ASTONISHING FIND HOW ARMS COULD LEAVE THAT COUNTRY WITHOUT THAT GOVERNMENT'S KNOWLEDGE.

6. "IT IS ALSO KNOWN THAT FRENCH GOVERNMENT CONTROLS ALL EXPORTATION ARMS FROM THAT COUNTRY.

7. "SOURCE POINTS OUT SOME FRENCH BUSINESSMEN WITH BUSINESS CONCERNS IN EASTERN STATES ARE KNOWN BE ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN ARMS SHIPMENT TO REBELS.

8. "MANAGING DIRECTOR OIL COMPANY IN NIGERIA WAS REPORTED TO HAVE DENIED THIS ARMS INVOLVEMENT WITH REBELS IN DISCUSSION WITH FMG AUTHORITIES RECENTLY".

9. COMMENT: SOURCE THIS REPORT SO FAR UNIDENTIFIED. ASSUME FROM TEXT OIL COMPANY REFERRED TO PROBABLY SANRAP OR TOTAL. MITHOEFER.

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, CIAE 00, DODE 20, GPM 03, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10,

P 04, RSC 01, SC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SAH 03, IO 13, RSR 01, MM 01,

AID 28, PC 04, /145 W

R 261315Z JAN 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9094
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 1002
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON 2034
AMEMBASSY PARIS 750
AMCONSUL KADUNA 2080
AMCONSUL IBADAN 1579

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CONFIDENTIAL LAGOS 6170 *Pol 27 Biafra Nigeria*
TR Pol 18 Nigeria
REF: KADUNA 625; LAGOS 5925; YAOUNDE 857 (NOTAL)

1. REUBEN BLUM, WHO REFERRED TO IN REFTELS, HAS CONTACTED
EMB COMMERCIAL OFFICER IN LAGOS. BLUM SAYS HE IS NEW YORK
ATTORNEY WITH BUSINESS INTEREST IN AMERICAN USED CLOTHING
FIRM, PIONEER INSTITUTIONAL TRADING CO. ABOUT JAN 10
HE VISITED VICTORIA, CAMEROON, TO DISCUSS SHIPPING AND
PAYMENT FOR USED CLOTHING WITH IBO TRADERS, RESIDENTS OF

PAGE 2 RUTALS 6170CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
VICTORIA, WHO HAVE ENGAGED IN USED CLOTHING BUSINESS FOR
LONG TIME. BLUM TOLD EMBOFF, AS HE HAD TOLD TIME-LIFE
REP IN KADUNA, HE STRUCK BY PESSIMISM OF IBOS RE WAR AS
CONTRASTED WITH OPTIMISM LAST AUGUST. BLUM PLANS RETURN
VICTORIA WITHIN NEXT FEW DAYS. BLUM'S CONTACTS ARE TRADERS

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(NOT "BIAFRAN" REPS AS REPORTED IN FIRST TWO REFTELS) WHO WOULD BE PARTICULARLY SENSITIVE TO BUSINESS LOSSES RESULTING FROM WAR, BUT THEY HAVE FAMILY IN "BIAFRA" AND EMOTIONAL ATTACHMENTS THERE.

2. CHARLES BALL OF SANTA FE DRILLING COMPANY'S LONDON OFFICE VISITED FERNANDO PO ABOUT JAN. 16 HE INFORMED EMB ECONOMIC COUNSELLOR THAT HE FOUND IBOS WHO LIVE THERE AND APPARENTLY CONTACT IN "BIAFRA" ARE SULLEN AND GLUM ABOUT NEWS FROM HOME, IN SPITE CLAIMS "BIAFRA" RADIO.

3. COMMENT: THESE REPORTS SUGGEST THAT SOME EXPATRIATE IBOS IN CAMEROON, FERNANDO PO AND ELSEWHERE HAVE COME TO RECOGNIZE SERIOUSNESS OF "BIAFRA'S" PLIGHT, PRESUMABLY THEY ARE WORRIED ABOUT BUSINESS LOSSES, FAMILY LOSSES AND

PAGE 3 RUTALS 6170CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
DIMINISHING PROSPECTS FOR "BIAFRA" ACHIEVING ITS OBJECTIVE OF RECOGNIZED INDEPENDENCE. ON OTHER HAND, EXTENT OF SIGNIFICANT DISILLUSIONMENT AMONG CIVILIANS INSIDE "BIAFRA" IS HARD TO ESTIMATE. DR. JOHNSON, CANADIAN MISSIONARY WHO SPENT WEEK JANUARY 7 TO 14 INSIDE "BIAFRA", REPORTS MORALE HIGH AND NO EVIDENCE OF DISSENT TO OJUKWU'S POLICIES. BUT JOHNSON WAS GIVEN RED-CARPET GUIDED TOUR AND PEOPLE HE WAS ALLOWED TO SEE PAINTED BRIGHT PICTURE; HENCE HE PROBABLY DID NOT HAVE OPPORTUNITY TO MEASURE EXTENT OF ANY DISILLUSIONMENT. (LAGOS 6068). ALTHOUGH IBOS ARE NOTED FOR THEIR DOGGED DETERMINATION AND WILL TO RESIST EVEN IN FACE OF GREAT ODDS, FURTHER FINANCIAL AND MILITARY SETBACKS COULD CAUSE MORE DISILLUSIONMENT AMONG RANK AND FILE OF "BIAFRANS".
GP-4. MATHEWS.

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R 261550Z JAN 68
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4670
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS 165

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 2453

REF: LAGOS 6117

IN CONVERSATION WITH KETEMA TODAY I TOLD HIM WE HAD SOME
INDICATION MODERATION BY FEDERAL GOVT OF ATTITUDE TOWARD OAU
INVOLVEMENT IN SETTLEMENT WITH IBOS. IT APPEARED TO US OAU
MISSION POSSIBLY MIGHT PLAY MORE EFFECTIVE ROLE IN SETTLEMENT
OR IN PROCESS REACHING SETTLEMENT. KETEMA EXPRESSED APPRECIATION
AND SAID HIM HAD PREDICTED FEDERAL GOVT IN TIME WOULD MODERATE
HARD LINE TAKEN WITH OAU MISSION.

HALL

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ADDIS ABABA 2453
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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 08, SS 10, GPM 03, INR 07, OPR 02, ACDA 07, IO 03, FILE 01, RSR 01,

MM 01, 058 W

P R 261400Z JAN 68
 FM USDAO/LAGOS/NIGERIA
 TO DIA PRIORITY
 SECSTATE WASHDC
 CINCSRIKE
 CINCLANT
 INFO CIA WASHDC
 DA
 AMCONSUL IBADAN
 AMCONSUL KADUNA
 DA GRNC

C O N F I D E N T I A L 0024 JAN 68: SGD HALLIGAN. COUNTRY: NIGERIA.
 SUBJECT: UPDATE CURRENT FMG/EASTERN MIL SITUATION. DIA FOR

DIACO: CINCSRIKE FOR STR 2-C. DA FOR ACSE.

1. FOLLOWING AVAIL AS OF 26 JAN FROM USUALPF RELIABLE SOURCES
 SUPREME HEADQUARTERS.

AM SECOND FED DIV. CURRENT OPERATIONS THIS DIV IN AREA BETWEEN
 ENUGU AND NIGER RIVER, WITH OBJECTIVES ON ROUTE TEN, BEING
 CONDUCTED SIMULTANEOUSLY BY ALL THREE BRIGADES OF DIV NOW IN EAST
 CENTRAL STATE (PREVIOUSLY REPORTED. REMINDER: OTHER TWO BRIGADES
 THIS DIV STILL IN MIDWEST, SEVEN AT ASABA, NINE AT BENIN). RIGHT

PAGE 2 RUTALS 6176CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
 (WESTSL COLUMN IS EIGHT BRIGADE WITH AXIS ADVANCE ANAKU)

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(0628N 0657E), IGBARIAM (0624N 0656E), AWKUSU (0615N 0657E), ROUTE TEN VICINTIY IFITEOKRO (0611N 0658E). CENTER COLUMN IS SIX BRIGADE, FOLLOWED BY DIV HQ, WITH AXIS ADVANCE ADBA (0630N 0707E), AMADIM-OLO (0626N 0711E), AMAGO EBENEBE (0620N 0708E), TO AWKA (0613N 0710E) ON ROUTE TEN LEFT (EAST) COLUMN IS TEN BRIGADE WITH AXIS ADVANCE ROUTE THREE SOUTH TO UKANA (0630N 0725E), THENCE EKE (0627N 0721E), AFOR-UGWU (0623N 0716E), TO CUT ROUTE TEN VICINTIY UGUOBA (0615N 0710E) THENCE TURN EAST ON ROUTE TEN TO SEIZE OJI RIVER POWER COMPLEX (0616N 0716E). SOURCES CONTINUE BELIEVE CENTER COLUMN HAS REACHED AWKA BUT HAS NOT HAD CONFIRMATION FROM FIELD.

B. SECOND DIV. REPORTS SHORTAGES 7.62MM SMALL ARMS AMMO IN FORWARD UNITS WITH DIV. RESERVES ALSO LOW. THIS HAS SET OFF ANOTHER CRASH PROCUREMENT AND DELIVERY ACTION FROM CROWN AGENTS. DIV SAYS CASUALTIES FOR DIV. THIS OPERATION HAVE BEEN LIGHT SO FAR.

C. THIRD DIV. CALABAR AREA. REF PAR 1, MY 0021 JAN 68. MOVEMENT TWO COLUMNS DESCRIBED TOWARD CROSS RIVER CROSSINGS HAS RESULTED IN WITHDRAWAL ELEMENTS. REBEL FIFTY SIX BRIGADE FROM IKOT OKPORO CALABAR ROAD TO NEW DEFENSIVE POSITIONS WEST BANK

PAGE 3 RUTALS 6176CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
CROSS RIVER.

2. REF PAR 4A MY 0023 JAN 68: NO SIGN EXPECTED BIRDS AS OF 261200A. GP-3.

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 06150 251837Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, GPM 03, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SAH 03, ACDA 16, AID 28, SCS 04, SCA 02, RSR 01, MM 01, /163 W

R 251545Z JAN 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9083
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA 1533
AMEMBASSY LONDON 2032
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 1001
US MISSION GENEVA 95
AMCONSUL KADUNA 2076
DIA
CINCSRIKE/CINCMCAFSA
ZEN AMCONSUL IBADAN 1578

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 6150

REF: LAGOS 6116

SUBJ: RED CROSS FLIGHT TO BIAFRA DOUBTFUL

1. BRITISH HC JAN 24 SENT FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO CO

PAGE 2 RUTALS 6150CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
RE ICRC EFFORTS GET PLANE INTO BIAFRA.
A. "HOFFMAN, ICRC DELEGATE, CONFIRMS THAT HE HAS BEEN
INSTRUCTED TO SEEK CLEARANCE FOR AIRCRAFT TO FLY INTO
PORT HARCOURT. HE SAID ICRC TEAM, WHICH SHOULD HAVE BEEN
RELIEVED LAST WEEK, HAVE NOW RETURNED TO GENEVA, PRESUMABLY

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VIA SAO TOME. ICRC STILL WANTED TO GET ANOTHER TEAMIN, THOUGH HE HIMSELF DOUBTED WISDOM OF THIS IN VIEW OF PROXIMITY OF ACHI TO FRONT LINE.

B. "WE HAVE ADVISED HOFFMAN TO SEEK SUPPORT OF OGBU, PERMANENT SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, BUT THE CHANCES OF AGREEMENT BEING GIVEN WITHIN NEXT WEEK OF TWO ARE IN OUR VIEW REMOTE. FMG ARE ABOUT TO TAKE DELIVERY OF THREE IL28 BOMBERS FROM UAR AND THESE ARE LIKELY TO BE USED FAIRLY SOON ON PORT HARCOURT (THIS INFORMATION SHOULD NOT (NOT) BE CONVEYED TO ICRC.) MOREOVER ACCORDING TO HOFFMAN, BIAFRANS HAVE STILL NOT AGREED TO NIGERIAN CONSUL IN FERNANDO PO INSPECTING AIRCRAFT AND CARGO.

C. "HOFFMAN IS ATTRACTED BY SUGGESTION THAT RELIEF AND EVACUATION OPERATION UNDER ICRC AUSPICES MIGHT BE

PAGE 3 RUTALS 6150CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
MOUNTED BY SEA FROM FERNANDO PO, POSSIBLY USING OIL RIG OFF THE COAST. SUCH AN OPERATION WOULD REQUIRE COOPERATION OF NIGERIAN NAVY, AND DEFENCE ADVISER HAS MENTIONED IDEA INFORMALLY TO ADMIRAL WEY. LATTER WAS NOT ENTHUSIASTIC, BUT WE ARE CONTINUING TO EXPLORE POSSIBILITIES. IF IT SEEMS FEASIBLE IT WILL BE FOR ICRC TO SEEK AGREEMENT OF BOTH SIDES. HOFFMAN WILL PROBABLY REPORT SUGGESTION TO GENEVA BUT HAS AGREED TO TAKE NO FURTHER ACTION FOR THE TIME BEING.

WE ASSUME THAT YOU WOULD WELCOME ANY SUCH PROPOSAL IF AIR OPERATION IS RULED OUT.

D. "DR. JOHNSON (CANADIAN PRESBYTERIAN LEADER) TOLD US THAT HE HAD DONE HIS BEST TO PERSUADE BIAFRANS TO AGREE O FMG INSPECTION OF AIRCRAFT AT FERNANDO PO AND THAT HE HAD SPOKEN SIMILARLY TO MOJEKWU IN GENEVA. JOHNSON HAD TAKEN LINE THAT COMPLIANCE WITH REQUIREMENT DE FACTO BLOCKADE SITUATION DID NOT INVOLVE ANY DEROGATION OF SOVEREIGNTY/AUTONOMY OF THE COMPLYING COUNTRY".

2. PRESIDENT NIGERIAN RED CROSS (CHIEF JUSTICE ADEMOLA) EXPRESSED GRAVE DOUBTS TO AMBASSADOR THAT ARRANGEMENTS

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PAGE 03 LAGOS 06150 251837Z

PAGE 4 RUTALS 6150CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
COULD BE MADE FOR ICRC PLANE GO PORT HARCOURT. ADEMOLA
HAD ADVISED ICRC NOT TO TRY MIX EVACUATION OF EXPATRIATES
WITH DELIVERY OF RC MEDICAL SUPPLIES AND MEDICAL TEAM.
ADEMOLA FELT IT SERIOUS MISTAKE FOR ICRC CONTINUE TRY DO
BOTH JOBS, BUT EVIDENTLY HOFFMAN STILL TRYING. PERHAPS
ADEMOLA REALIZES, AND HOFFMAN DOES NOT, THAT MILITARY
OPERATIONS MAY SOON MAKE ANY FLIGHTS OR RC OPERATIONS IN
PH IMPOSSIBLE.

3. FOR GENEVA. PARA 1A ABOVE SAYS ICRC TEAM WHICH HAS
BEEN IN BIAFRA SEVERAL MONTHS RETURNED GENEVA LAST
WEEK. HOPE MEMBERS TEAM CAN BE CONTACTED IN ORDER
ELICIT INFORMATION ON CONDITIONS AND MORALE OF PEOPLE
INSIDE BIAFRA.
GP3. MATHEWS.

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POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

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DEFENSE DEPT. 1-25-68

PAGE 01 251903Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 08, NEA 06, SS 10, GPM 03, INR 07, OPR 02, ACDA 07, IO 03, RSR 01,

FILE 01, MM 01, /064 W

P R 251435Z JAN 68
FM USDAO/LAGOS NIGERIA
TO DIA PRIORITY
SECSTATE WASHDC
CINCSRIKE
CINCLANT
INFO CIA WASHDC
DA
AMCONSUL KADUNA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMCONSUL IBADAN
DA GRNC

S E C R E T 0023 JAN 68. SGD HALLIGAN. COUNTRY: NIGERIA.
SUBJECT: UPDATE CURRENT FMG/EASTERN MIL SITUATION. DIA FOR
DIACO; CINCSRIKE FOR STRJ2-C; DA FOR ACSI.

1. USUALLY RELIABLE SOURCES SUPREME HQ, DODAN BARRACKS, SEEM
"RELATIVELY SURE" MUHAMMED (MURITALE MUHAMED AND HIS FED SECOND

PAGE 2 RUTALS 614000 S E C R E T
DIV) AT AWKA", BUT SINCE HE HAS NOT YET CONFIRMED, COMMANDER-IN-
CHIEF (GOWON) WILL NOT PERMIT ANY SUCH CLAIM OR HINT. SAME
SOURCES SAID "BONNY NOW CLEAR REBEL FORCES. WE OWN (SIC)
ISLAND AT LAST". SOURCES CONFIRMED RECENT OBSERVATIONS
CANADIAN MISSIONARY WHO HAD BEEN IN PORT HARCOURT THAT OKRIKA
REFINERY HAD BEEN DAMAGED. SOURCES SAID "AERIAL ROCKET AND

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MACHINE GUN FIRE HAS DONE SUBSTANTIAL (SIC) DAMAGE TO OKRIKA REFINERY".

2. REF PAR 3, MY 0012 JAN 68: AS INDICATED BY SOURCE QUOTED REF MSG, FULL MEMBERSHIP MEETING SUPREME MIL COUNCIL (SMC) SCHEDULED DODAN BARRACKS COMMENCING 26 JAN. USUALLY RELIABLE SOURCES SAY TWO PRINCIPAL AGENDA ITEMS FOR MEETING ARE, ONE: CONDUCT OF WAR; AND TWO, PRESENTATION BY BRIGADIER DAVID EJOOR OF HIS PLANS FOR REORGANIZATION, RETRAINING AND PARTIAL DEMOBILIZATION NIGERIAN ARMY. MEMBERS SMC FROM OUTSIDE LAGOS NOTED ARRIVING LAGOS 25 JAN.

3. REF PAR 3, MY 0523 DEC 67 (NOTAL): ON 24 JAN, SAME SOURCE (PROTECT) QUOTED REF MSG TOLD DATT THAT FEARED UAR AND SOV

PAGE 3 RUTALS 6140CC S E C R E T

SABOTAGE OF PLANNED MEDICAL ASSISTANCE HAD, IN FACT, SUCCEEDED IN FORCING FMG CANCELLATION GOI OFFER. SHORTLY AFTER JOINT GOI/FMG MIL SURGEON TEAM HAD MADE ON THE GROUND SURVEY ENTIRE MIL MEDICAL SYSTEM, WITH EMPHASIS WAR CASUALTY EVAC AND TREATMENT; ISRAELI AMBASSADOR HERE CALLED IN BY MINEXTAF AND TOLD "FMG HAD MADE MISTAKE ASKING FOR SUCH HELP AS IT REALLY NOT REQUIRED". (SOURCE SAID ISRAELI MIL SURGEON INVOLVED HAD BEEN APPALLED AT SHORTAGE MIL DOCTORS AND COMPLETE ABSENCE ANY REALISTICALLY WORKABLE MEDICAL EVAC SYSTEM. SURGEON SAID VAST BULK MIL CASUALTIES HE SAW IN FED MIL HOSPITALS WERE ORTHOPEDIC CASES. HE NOTED PRECIOUS FEW HEAD, CHEST OR ABDOMINAL WOUND CASES AND, BASED ON EXPERIENCE, CONCLUDED THAT BULK NON-ORTHOPEDIC CASUALTIES DIED ENROUTE REAR AREA HOSPITALS FROM FORWARD COMBAT AREAS. SURGEON SAID CASUALTY EVAC TO REAR AREAS AVERAGED SIX DAYS: AT MEDICAL CLEARING STATION OTURKPO (0715N 0810E) NO REPEAT NO DOCTOR IN ATTENDANCE; ONLY MEDICAL AID MAN TO FURNISH DRESSINGS. AT EVAC STATION MAKURDI (0745N 0832E) ONLY ONE DOCTOR IN ATTENDANCE. IN MAJOR MIL HOSPITALS IN NORTH, BEST STAFFED HAD TWO DOCTORS. OPERATIONAL ANAESTHETISTS WERE NON-EXISTANT. OPERATIONS WERE PERFORMED WITHOUT THIS LUXURY). ISRAELI AMBASSADOR SUBSEQUENTLY

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PAGE 4 RUTALS 6140CC S E C R E T
DISCUSSED SITUATION WITH GOWON WHO FRANKLY ADMITTED SERIOUS
SHORTAGES MIL MEDICAL AREAS AND REPEATED NEEDS FOR SUCH HELP AS HAD
BEEN OFFERED. GOWON, HOWEVER, MADE IT QUITE CLEAR, BY IMPLICATION,
SOV AND UAR PRESSURE HAD FORCED THIS CANCELLATION NEEDED MIL
MEDICAL HELP. GOWON ALLEGEDLY SAID, SUBSTANTIALLY, "AT THIS TIME
I HAVE TO GO ALONG WITH THEM BECAUSE WE NEED THEIR HELP". (ON
25 JAN, MATTER DISCUSSED WITH SOURCES SUPREME HQ WHO IN POSITION
KNOW AND WHO WOULD LEVEL ON MATTER. SOURCES CONFIRMED
SUBSTANCE WHAT REPORTED BY DATT'S SOURCE AND DID NOT CONTRADICT
SINGLE TEAM. SAID "NEED WAS THERE, IS THERE, AND WILL BE
THERE". THESE SOURCES CONFIRMED SOV/UAR PRESSURE ON MATTER.
AND WENT FURTHER TO SAY SOVC AND UAR BOTH OFFERED PROVIDE
MIL MEDICAL HELP REQUIRED. THESE SOURCES ALLEGE GOWON SAID
POLITE "THANKYOU, BUT NO THANK YOU". SOURCES SAID, FURTHER,
PMG STILL LOOKING FOR MUCH NEEDED HELP THIS LINE AND HOPED BE
ABLE GET IT FROM "MORE NEUTRAL AND LESS CONTROVERSIAL SOURCES
THAN EITHER ISRAELIS OR SOV/UAR GROUP". HOPE WAS SUCH HELP
MIGHT BE PROVIDED BY "SOME SMALL EUROPEAN COUNTRY-PERHAPS ONE
OF SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRIES LIKE NORWAY".

4. NIGERIAN AIR FORCE:

PAGE 5 RUTALS 6140CC S E C R E T

A. REF PAR 3. MY 0021 JAN 68: NOT SURE THIS ONE, BUT IT POSSIBLE
PLANES DISCUSSED REF PAR COULD ARRIVE LAGOS APPROX 261000A JAN.
WILL BE WATCHING.

B. IN 25 JAN CONVERSATION WITH DAO MAP OFFICER, COMMANDER NAF,
LTC: S. A. ALAO, SAID:

(1) BOTH HUNTING PROVOST PLANES OPERATIONAL AND BEING FLOWN "BY
NIGERIAN PILOTS".

(2) NEITHER MIGS NOR L-29S HAVE BEEN MUCH HELP TO NAF IN
BOMBING TYPE MISSIONS DUE SHORT RANGE AND LOW BOMB CARRYING
CAPACITY.

(3) NAF USING TWO HUNDRED AND FIVE HUNDRED KILO FRAGMENTATION AND
HE BOMBS AND "GETTING GOOD RESULTS WITH THEM".

(4) HE PERSONALLY AGAINST POLICY INDISCRIMINATE BOMBING AND

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"BLASTING" OF EAST. HE WOULD PREFER "STING THEM HARD WHERE IT HURTS AND THEN SIT BACK TO SEE WHETHER THEY READY TO TALK OR WANT MORE". HE FORESAW, HOWEVER, FMG REACHING POINT WHERE ONLY POSSIBLE COURSE ACTION WOULD BE TO "BLAST THEM OUT RATHER THAN WAITING FOR THEM TO COME TO CONFERENCE TABLE". HE NOT OPTIMISTIC OVER POSSIBILITIES GETTING THEM TO CONFERENCE TABLE.

5. NIGERIAN NAVY AUXILIARY BODE THOMAS OUT OF DRYDOCK PROPER

PAGE 6 RUTALS 6140CC S E C R E T
BUT STILL IN REPAIR AREAS OF NIGERIAN PORTS AUTHORITY YARDS.
GP-3.

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XRSOC 3 RED CROSS

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, GPM 03, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04,
RSC 01, SC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SAH 03, AID 28, ACDA 16, SCS 04,
SCA 02, RSR 01, MM 01, 163 W

R 241615Z JAN 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9068
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA 1528
AMEMBASSY LONDON 2029
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 998
US MISSION GENEVA 94
AMCONSUL KADUNA 2071
DIA
CINCSSTRIKE/CINCMCAFSA
AMCONSUL IBADAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 6116

SUBJ: CID CROSS FLIGHTS TO BIAFRA

1. BRITISH HC JAN. 23 SENT FOLLOWING REPORT TO CO ON
REDCROSS EFFORTS TO ARRANGE FLIGHTS INTO BIAFRA.

PAGE 2 RUTALS 6116CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
2. "MR. BORSINGER OF THE ICRC TOLD ME THIS MORNING
THAT THE SITUATION ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF CARRYING OUT
PLANNED FLIGHTS OF RED CROSS AIRCRAFT TO BIAFRA AND
FERNANDO PO WAS NOT AS BAD AS PRESS REPORTS HAD IMPLIED.
THERE APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN MISUNDERSTANDING OF STATEMENT
MADE TO PRESS BY ICRC SPOKESMAN. IN FACT THE

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RED CROSS WERE EXPERIENCING DIFFICULTY WITH BOTH SIDES IN GETTING ACCEPTANCE OF THE PROCDEURES NORMAL IN THE CASE OF A BLOCKADE.

3. "ALTHOUGH THEY AGREED IN PRINCIPLE AT THE END OF DECEMBER THAT THE RED CROSS MIGHT WORK OUT THEIR PLAN OF FLYING IN MEDICAL SUPPLIES, THE FEDERAL AUTHORITIES SAID AT THE BEGINNING OF LAST WEEK THAT THEY REGRETTED THAT IN VIEW OF THE CONFUSED SITUATION OBTAINING IN BONNY AND PORT HARCOURT, THEY COULD NOT, FOR THE TIME BEING, GUARANTEE SAFE PASSAGE. THE RED CROSS ARE NOW SEEKING TO CLARIFIY THE SITUATION, BUT ARE NOT AWARE THAT THE FEDERAL AUTHORITIES HAVE GONE BACK ON THEIR PREVIOUS AGREEMENT OF PRINCIPLE. IT HAS BEEN SUGGESTED THAT

PAGE 3 RUTALS 6116CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
REPORTS OF DIFFICULT MILITARY SITUATION IN PORT HARCOURT AND BONNY HAVE BEEN EXAGGERATED UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF ANTI-BRITISH FEELING IN LAGOS. (SIC- PROBABLY MEANT "IN BIAFRA").

4. THE BIAFRAN AUTHORITIES HAVE ALSO RAISED OBSTACLES, BASED ON A MISUNDERSTANDING OF BLOCKADE PROCEDURES WHICH IS WELL ON THE WAY TO BEING CLEARED UP.

5. "ICRC HOPE TO BE ABLE TO BE IN A POSITION IN A FEW DAYS TIME TO REINSTALL THE POSTPONED 7-DAY CHARTER OF A PLANE AND TO DESPATCHIT. TEAMS AND EIGHT TONS OF MATERIAL WHICH IT WAS HOPED COULD HAVE LEFT BASLE ON 18 JANUARY ARE STILL AVAILABLE. MORE NEGOTIATIONS WILL HOWEVER BE NEEDED BEFORE FIRM ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE MADE TO FLY FOREIGNERS OUT OF BIAFRA. THERE HAS BEEN SOME QUESTION OF REQUIRING PERSONS BROUGHT FROM BIAFRA TO FERNANDO PO TO TRAVEL THENCE TO FGOS. FOR MANY THIS

WOULD OF COURSE BE UNACCEPTABLE.

6. "BORSINGER TOLD ME THAT THERE ARE POSSIBILITIES OF

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PAGE 4 RUTALS 611CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
MOVEMENT BY BIAFRA'S OWN CLANDESTINE FLIGHTS. BUT RED
CROSS WOULD NOT USE THESE BECAUSE OF THE WORK INVOLVED
WITHOUT CEASE FIRE."
GP-3. MATHEWS.

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ACTION AF 15

INFO SS 10, GPM 03, INR 07, MM 01, IO 03, EUR 08, MC 01, GDP 01, ACDA 07, P 03

PSR 01, FILE 01, /061 W

P R 241425Z JAN 68
FM USDAO/LAGOS NIGERIA
TO DIA PRIORITY
SECSTATE WASHDC
RUEDPSA/CINCSTRIKE
CINCLANT
INFO CIA WASHDC
DA
AMCONSUL IBADAN
AMCONSUL KADUNA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMCONSUL ZURICH
DA GRNC

C O N F I D E N T I A L 0021 JAN 68. SGD HALLIGAN. COUNTRY: NIGERIA.
SUBJECT: UPDATE CURRENT FMG/EASTERN MIL SITUATION. DIA FOR
DIACO: CINCSTRIKE FOR STRJ2-C; DA FOR ACSI.

1. REF PAR 18, MY 0018 JAN 68: USUALLY RELIABLE SOURCES ARMY

PAGE 2 RUTALS 6108CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
HQ SAY FED COLUMN MOVING BETWEEN CROSS AND CALABAR RIVERS FROM
CREEKTOWN MAKING GOOD PROGRESS AND BELIEVED AT OR IN VICINITY
VILLAGE OBAM ITIAT (0515N 0805E) WHICH APPROX THREE ROAD MILES
SOUTHEAST PROBABLE CROSS RIVER CROSSING SITE ATAN EKI BEACH.
THIS COLUMN, IN RECENT FIGHTING, HAS REPORTED KILLING "SEVERAL

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MERCENARIES" AND DESTROYING "SEVERAL ARMORED VEHICLES". (IT PROBABLE THESE EX BRITISH BRENN CARRIERS WHICH HAD BEEN CONVERTED INTO "ARMORED VEHICLES" BY REBEL FORCES.

2. REF PAR 1, MY 0019 JAN 68: SOURCE IN POSITION KNOW SAID BISALLA AND OGUNDIPE FLEW LONDON TO GENEVA, RATHER THAN ZURICH, 23 JAN. SOURCE DID NOT KNOW PURPOSE OF VISIT.

3. REF PAR 4A, MY 0007 JAN 68: BASED INFO SEVERAL UNRELATED SOURCES GENERALLY IN GOOD POSITION KNOW, ALL INDICATIONS ARE THREE IL-28 BOMBERS WITH EGYPTIAN CREWS ABOARD DUE LAGOS MOMENTARILY. IT BELIEVED, FURTHER, THESE PLANES VERY POSSIBLY CURRENTLY CARRYING NAF NUMBERS IN ADDITION TO NIGERIAN COLORS. DAO MAP OFFICER AT IKEJA AIRPORT MORNING 24 JAN OBSERVED BULGARIA AIRWAYS IL-18, TAIL NUMBER LZ-BET UNLOADING SMALL WOODEN BOXES.

4. REF PAR 3B, MY 0010 JAN 68: SQUINDO RETURNED LAGOS EVENING

PAGE 3 RUTALS 6108CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
23 JAN. LAL RETURNED MORNING 24 JAN. BELIEVE WILL HAVE INFO ON WHAT PURCHASED WHERE IN VERY NEAR FUTURE. FMG, HOWEVER, ASKING AIR CHARTER FIRMS LAGOS FOR BIDS ON FLYING FORTY TONS "MIL CRGO" FROM "PARIS TO LAGOS".

5. REF PAR 4, MY 0019 JAN 68: FMG MIL AUTHORITIES CONTINUE GIVE SERIOUS CONSIDERATION TO MATTERS INVOLVING IMPROVEMENT DISCIPLINARY CONTROL ARMED FORCES. MEETING LOCAL REPS SUPREME MIL COUNCIL AT DODAN NITE 23 JAN CONSIDERED POSSIBILITY GIVING GENERAL COURTS MARTIAL AUTHORITY TO FIELD COMMANDERS (READ DIV COMMANDERS). UNDER PRESENT MIL REGS, SUCH AUTHORITY DOES NOT EXIST AT FIELD LEVEL. LEGAL ADVISOR TO MOD NOW CONSIDERING BASIC GUIDELINES IN ORDER PREPARE IMPLEMENTING INSTRUCTIONS FOR DIVISION COMMANDERS. BASIC STUMBLING BLOCK IS PROPER DEGREE CONTROL AND AUTHORITY TO VEST IN DIV COMMANDERS WHO, NOT HAVING HAD SUCH AUTHORITY BEFORE, MAY TEND MISUSE OR ABUSE IT. THIS SPECIAL CONCERN OF VERY, VERY "PROPER AUTHORITY" MINDED GOWON. HOWEVER, NEED FOR GREATER AND MORE IMMEDIATE DISCIPLINARY POWERS IN HANDS FIELD COMMANDERS, ESPECIALLY AS FIGHTING GETS CLOSER IBO HEARTLAND, RECOGNIZED BY ALL CONCERNED. GP-3.

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POL 27 BRABRA-NIGERIA

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ACTION AF 09

INFO EUR 08, ID 03, SS 10, GPM 03, INR 07, ACDA 07, RSR 01, FILE 01, MM 01,
/050 W

P R 231515Z JAN 68
FM USDAO/LAGOS NIGERIA
TO DIA PRIORITY
SECSTATE WASHDC
CINCSTRIKE
CINCLANT
INFO CIA WASHDC
REPDA/DA
AMCONSUL ZURICH
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMCONSUL KADUNA
AMCONSUL IBADAN
DA GRNC

CONFIDENTIAL 0019 JAN 68. SGD HALLIGAN. COUNTRY: NIGERIA.
SUBJECT: UPDATE CURRENT FMG/EASTERN MIL SITUATION. DIA FOR
DIACO; CINCSTRIKE FOR STRJ2-C; DA FOR ACSI.

1. REF PAR 48, MY 0018 JAN 68 (NOTAL). ARMY C/S BISALLA,
CURRENTLY VISITING LONDON, ALSO SCHEDULED VISIT ZURICH (POSSIBLY

PAGE 2 RUTALS 6076CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
23 OR 24 JAN) IN COMPANY NIGERIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER LTDON
BRIGADIER OGUNDIPE. (STILL SUSPECTED HERE VISIT HAS STRONG
MILITARY/POLITICO OVERTONES IN VIEW FACT C/S ABSENTING HIMSELF
FROM NIGERIAN SCENE THIS CRITICAL TIME. FACT AS LEAST SEVERAL
KEY "BIAFRANS" INCLUDING CCM MOJEKWU, REPORTED IN ZURICH VERY
PROBABLY MORE THAN MERE COINCIDENCE.

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2. COMMANDER FIRST FED DIVISION (ENUGU SECTOR) COLONEL MUHAMMED SHUWA, HAS BEEN IN LAGOS "FOR CONSULTATIONS" SINCE 20 JAN. SHUWA SAID ADVANCE FED SECOND DIV (MURITALLE MUHAMMED), OPERATING RIGHT (WEST) FLANK FIRST DIV, "GOING WELL AND ACCORDING TO PLAN". SHUWA BELIEVES SECOND DIV HAS CUT ROUTE TEN TWO PLACES: BETWEEN ONITSHA AND AWKA, AND BETWEEN AWKA AND OJI RIVER. (STILL NO EVIDENCE SECOND DIV IN EITHER AWKA OR ONITSHA ALTHOUGH, PERCULIARLY IN VIEW FEDS HAD NOT YET CLAIMED AS MUCH, REBEL RADIO 22 JAN DENIED FED TROOPS HAD CAPTURED ONITSHA). SHUWA SAID HIS FIRST DIV "ALSO ON MORE" TOWARD UDI (0619N 0726E) APPROX EIGHT MILES SOUTHWEST ENUGU (AND WEST ROUTE THREE) AND AGBANI (0618N 0734E) APPROX EIGHT MILES SOUTHEAST ENUGU (AND EAST ROUTE THREE). BOTH UDI AND AGBANI SOUTH ATAFU RIVER WHICH IS SECOND SIGNIFIANT

PAGE 3 RUTALS 6076CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
RIVER BARRIER LINE SOUTH ENUGU (FIRST IS NYABA RIVER) AND BOTH ARE ON SIGNIFICANT SECONDARY ROAD JUNCTIONS.

3. REF PAR 1A, MY 0018 JAN 68: ARMY HQ SOURCES SAY FED FIFTEENTH BRIGADE HAS "NOW CLEARED BONNY (SIC) OF REBEL FORCES". FIGHTING PATROLS REFERRED TO NOW SAID TO BE OPERATING UP CREEKS AND CHANNELS NORTH OF BONNY IN DIRECTION AND VICINITY OKRIKA.

4. IN SIGNIFICANT MOVE, WITH BOTH CURRENT AND LONG RANGE IMPLICATIONS, FED ARMY IN PROCESS FORMING AND TRAINING TWO SEPARATE PROVOST (MILITARY POLICE) COMPANIES. ONE WILL BE TRAINED NIGERIAN ARMY DEPOT KADUNA AND OTHER NIGERIAN ARMY DEPOT ABEOKUTA. IN ADDITION TO SELECTED CADRE OF EXPERIENCED SOLDIERS BEING RETURNED TO DUTY STATUS FROM "WOUNDD IN HOSPITAL" (COMBAT VETERANS), APPROX TWO HUNDRED ESPECIALLY SELECTED NIGERIA POLICE TYPES BEING DRAFTED FOR THESE COMPANIES. PLAN IS TO HAVE COMPANIES OPERATE UNDER CENTRALIZED CONTROL ARMY HQ, LAGOS, RATHER THAN BEING ASSIGNED SUBORDINATE FIELD OR AREA COMMANDS. OBJECTIVE IS TO HAVE GOOD INTERNAL DISCIPLINARY FORCE AVAIL TO DEAL WITH RISING NUMBER TROOPS DISCIPLINARY INFRACTIONS REPORTED FROM

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PAGE 4 RUTALS 6076CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
AREAS HEAVY TROOP CONCENTRATIONS. IT BELIEVED DIV COMMANDERS
(SHUWA ESPECIALLY) DO NOT LIKE IDEA UNITS NOT RESPONSIVE TO THEM
POLICING THEIR TROOPS. SHUWA MAINTAINS THIS SHOWS LACK CONFIDENCE
ON PART ARMY HQ IN ABILITY FIELD COMMANDERS KEEP EFFECTIVE CONTROL
TROOPS. ARGUMENT HAS FAILED TO BUDGE LAGOS IN ITS DETERMINATION
INSURE "TROOPS PROPERLY POLICED".

5. NAVAL AND RELATED ACTIVITYC

A. FOLLOWING NAVAL UNITS AT SEA: FRIGATE NIGERIA AND MOTOR
PATROL BOAT EKUN AT BONNY; SDB KADUNA AT CROSS RIVER (CALABAR).
ALL OTHER FIGHTING UNITS AT APPA BASE.

B. REF PAR 2, MY 0018 JAN 68: LCT LOKOJA RETURNED LAGOS
210945A. SCREW AND SHAFT REPAIRS SAID HAVING BEEN MADE
"GOOD FASHION".

C. NAVAL AUXILIARY "KWA RIVER" DEPARTED LAGOS 230635A FOR
CALABAR WITH TROOPS, SUPPLIES, AMMO, EQUIPMENT AND "LARGE
QUANTITY AVGAS IN DRUMS" ON BOARD. GP-3.

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DEFENSE DEPT. 1-20-68

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ACTION AF 06

INFO FILE 01, MM 01, RSR 01, GPM 03, INR 07, EUR 08, P 03, E 04, /034 W

P R 201030Z JAN 68
FM USDAO/LAGOS, NIGERIA
TO DIA PRIORITY
SECSTATE WASHDC
CINCSRIKE
CINCLANT
INFO CIA WASHDC
DA
AMCONSUL KADUNA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMCONSUL IBADAN
DA GRNC

C O N F I D E N T I A L 0018 JAN 68. SGD HALLIGAN. COUNTRY: NIGERIA.
SUBJECT: UPDATE CURRENT FMG/EASTERN MIL SITUATION. DIA FOR
DIACO: CINCSRIKE FOR STRJ2-C; DA FOR ACSE.

1. FOLLOWING AVAIL FROM USUALLY RELIABLE SOURCES ARMY HQ AS OF
20 JAN:
A. BONNY: C/S BISALLA VISITED BONNY 19 JAN. FOUND LTC

PAGE 2 RUTALS 6017CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
AKINRINADE'S FIFTEENTH FED BRIGADE "ON OFFENSIVE IN ENTIRE AREA";
BONNY ISLAND COMPLEX PROPER "VIRTUALLY CLEARED REBEL TROOPS".
REBEL FIFTY SECOND BRIGADE, UNDER COMMAND LTC MICHAEL KALU, WHICH
HAD LOCATED FORWARD HEADQUARTERS BONNY ISLAND PROPER DURING
CAMPAIGN, HAD BEEN "OVERRUN" BY FED FORCES DURING COURSE RECENT
FIGHTING. KALU ESCAPED, BUT BISALLA CLAIMS BRIGADE HAS "CEASED
EXIST AS EFFECTIVE FIGHTING UNIT". AKINRINADE SAID TO HAVE
"FIGHTING PATROLS" OPERATING FROM BONNY "THROUGH ALL CREEKS

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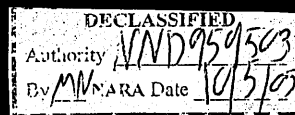
IN AREA". BISALLA SAID THESE "VERY EFFECTIVE", AND THAT IT WAS ONE THESE PATROLS WHICH CARRIED OUT RECENT FED RAID PORT HARCOURT AIRFIELD (SEE PAR 2, MY 0014 JAN 68). BISALLA SAID AS RESULT RECENT FIGHTING BONNY THERE HAS BEEN SOME FURTHER DAMAGE TO OIL INSTALLATIONS ON ISLAND AND THAT OIL JETTY AT BONNY TOWN HAD BEEN "BADLY DAMAGED". BISALLA SAID BONNY ISLAND A "MESS WITH AREA STILL LITTERED WITH BODIES AND STENCH SOMETHING AWFUL". SAID "NO PRESS WILL BE ALLOWED IN UNTIL AREA CLEANED UP".
B. CALABAR: COL BEN ADEKUNLE'S THIRD COMMANDO DIV ON MOVE ONCE AGAIN NORTH FROM CALABAR AFTER PERIOD IN WHICH HEAVE REBEL PRESSURE FROCED FEDERAL PULL BACK SOUTH ON CALABAR/IKOT OKPORO ROAD TO VICINITY NETIM PLANTATIONS (0512N 0800E) APPROX FIVE

PAGE 3 RUTALS 6017CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
MILES NORTH CALBAR. ADEKUNLE NOW HAS TWO COLUMNS MOVING NORTH. FIRST AGAIN ON CALABAR/IKOT OKPORO ROAD; THIS HAS MOVED NORTHWARD TO POINT VILLAGE AKANKPA (0518N 0820E) WHICH LOCATION DUNLOP RUBBER PLANTATIONS APPROX FIFTEEN ROAD MILES NORTH CALABAR AND APPROX TWO ROAD MILES EAST DUNLOP BRIDGE OVER CALABAR RIVER WHICH BLOWN APPROX TWO WEEKS AGO BY FED RAIDING FORCE TO HINDER REB ATTEMPTS MAINTAIN PRESSURE ON FED FORCES VIC CALBAR. OBJECTIVE THIS COLUMN ONCE AGAIN FERRY CROSSING POINT VIC IKOT OKPORO (0525N 0804E) ON CROSS RIVER. SECOND COLUMN MOVING EAST OF AND PARALLEL TO FIRST COLUMN USING AS AXIS NORTHWARD ADVANCE SECONDARY ROAD NETWORK RUNNING NORTH WEST FROM CREEKTOWN (0459N 0816E) TO FERRY CROSSING POINT VIC ATAN EKI BEACH (0518N 0801E) ON CROSS RIVER APPROX FOUR AND ONE HALF STRAIT LINE MILES DUE SOUTH WEST IKOT OKPORO CROSSING POINT. AXIS FED ADVANCE HAS CROSS RIVER TO WEST AND CALABAR RIVER TO RIGHT. ADEKUNLE REPORTS GOOD PROGRESS ALTHOUGH HE SLOWED BY REBEL BLOWN BRIDGES ON BOTH ROUTES OF ADVANCE.
C. SECOND DIV: NO NEW SITREPS FROM DIV COMMANDER MUHAMMED BUT ARMY HQ HOLDS HIS DIV AS "OVER ROUTE TEN (ONITSHA-AWKA-UDI) SEVERAL PLACES". IT KNOWN DIV HAD "SEVERAL HEAVY ENGAGEMENTS

PAGE 4 RUTALS 6017CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
NORTH ROUTE TEN" EARLIER THIS WEEK. SPECIFIC POSITIONS FED TROOPS:

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WITH RESPECT ONITSHA, AWKA AND USI NOT KNOWN ARMY HQ. IT NOT AT ALL UNLIKELY, HOWEVER, THAT TROOPS COULD BE IN TOWNS SEVERAL DAYS BEFORE COMMANDERS CONCERNED WILL LET ARMY KNOW; THIS GETTING TO BE TYPICAL HEDGE ON PART FED COMMANDERS WHO USE THIS TACTIC TO INSURE AGAINST UNFAVORABLE COMMENTS SHOULD THEY GET INTO TOWN AND BE DRIVEN BACK OUT. ANNOUNCEMENT OF CAPTURE MADE WHEN COMMANDER ASSURES GOWON HE THERE TO STAY.

2. NAVAL ACTIVITY: NO CHANGE. IT NOTED, HOWEVER, LCT LOKOJA WHICH HAS BEEN GONE FROM LAGOS NOW KNOWN TO HAVE BEEN AT REPAIR FACILITIES NIGER RIVER TRANSPORT COMPANY, BURUTU, FOR REFITTING SCREWS AND SHAFTS.

3. AIR FORCE: NO SUBSTANTIAL CHANGE. HEAVY HARMATTAN FOGS SOUTHERN NIGERIA FOR LAST WEEK OR MORE HAVE SEVERELY CURTAILED NAF ACTIVITY OVER HARCOURT AND OTHER REBEL TARGETS.

4. MISCELLANEOUS:

A. VERY HEAVY FED ARMY RECRUITING CONTINUES BONNY CAMP VICTORIA

PAGE 5 RUTALS 6017CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
ISLAND LAGOS.

B. ARMY C/S BISALLA DUE DEPART LAGOS FOR LONDON 21 JAN FOR "SEVERAL DAYS" AS U.K. DEFENSE ADVISOR DOES NOT KNOW PURPOSE OF VISIT, IT NOT BELIEVED IN CONNECTION ARMS, EQUIPMENT AMMO OR THE LIKE. MORE LIKELY SOME POLITICO/MIL SIGNIFICANCE AS BISALLA CLOSE CONFIDENT GOWON AND MUST HAVE SIGNIFICANT BUSINESS TO TAKE HIM OUT OF LAGOS IN MIDST DEVELOPING FED OFFENSIVE ON BOTH NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN FRONTS. GP-3.

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PAGE 01 YAOUNDE 00857 200955Z

ACTION AF 15

INFO CIAE 00, RSC 01, INR 07, DODE 00, EUR 15, MM 01, RSR 01, NSAE 00, /0400

R 191655Z JAN 68
FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
TO AMEMBASSY LAGOS 463
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1653
AMCONSUL KADUNA 12

C O N F I D E N T I A L YAOUNDE 857

REF: LAGOS 5985, KADUNA 625

NEITHER DOUALA NOR YAOUNDE HAS ANY RECORD OF REUBEN BLOOM
(BLUM). GP-4. PAYTON

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FROM : Amembassy DAKAR

SUBJECT : Senghor Interview with Russell Howe

REF : Dakar 1664

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DATE: 19 Jan 68

There is enclosed the text of the story filed by Russell HOWE, resident correspondent of the Christian Science Monitor and Baltimore Sun, of his interview with President Senghor on January 12, which Mr. Howe gave to the Ambassador.

BROWN

ant

Enclosure: 42 7/1. 24.
 a/s

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Drafted by: POL:GRAndrews:mv:1/16/68 CRIA

Clearances: Ambassador Brown (in substance) CRIA

USIS:JAMcGinley (in substance) CRIA

Contents and Classification Approved by: DCM:AWLukens

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Dakar A- 169

Text of Story Filed by
Russell Howe
on Interview with President Senghor

The Lagos regime should withdraw its troops from Biafra and stop its "genocide" of the Ibo tribe as a first step toward a solution of the Nigerian conflict, President Léopold Sédar Senghor of Senegal told this reporter here.

Senegal was opposed to Biafran secession but equally opposed to the Lagos regime's war on the Ibo people of former Eastern Nigeria, Senghor said.

In an exclusive interview, French Africa's best known poet and elder statesman noted that Lagos had wanted a federation and Biafran leader Col. Chukwuemeka Odumegwu-Ojukwu a confederation. The disagreement "was not worth a war." If Africa was to condemn the racial policies of southern Africa, it must cease genocide in Nigeria and Sudan (where the dominant Arab population is repressing the secessionist Negro Sudanese).

Senghor also called for:

* Some Black African links with southern Africa, establishing a dialogue that would lead to a "revolution of ideas, not arms."

* A U.S. withdrawal from Viet Nam, which Senghor said would become a "Titoist, not a Maoist," communist country if left to itself.

* British and Commonwealth African membership of the European Common Market on the same terms as the present European and French-African membership.

On the bloody struggle in Nigeria, Senghor said: "Negotiation is essential."

If we are to condemn the egoism of the developed countries, and the insolence of South Africa, Rhodesia and Portugal, then we must admit that we Africans are giving them sticks with which to beat us. For we are practicing genocide in Africa -- in Sudan, in Nigeria.

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"We have opposed the Biafran secession -- not for legalistic reasons, because in principle, in a federation, a self-governing state can always opt for its independence" (Senegal seceded from the Mali Federation in 1960). "Our attitude was based on political and 'African' reasons: we believe that in the long run this secession is not in the interest of either Biafra or Nigeria.

"Lagos wanted a federation. The Ibo said: it must be a confederation. There was a middle way. This was not worth a war. Just as we condemn the Biafran secession, so we condemn the obstinacy of the Lagos government in insisting on a solution by force. We have good relations with Lagos and regret the secession, but we cannot support the use of force. The Lagos troops should be withdrawn."

On South Africa, Senghor regretted that many African countries and "all the great powers, even the Communist powers" still traded with that country. Senegal had obeyed the Organization of African Unity resolution on boycotting South Africa and had ceased its profitable sale of phosphates there.

Senghor said he believed in a nonviolent solution to the South African problem. "We should organize contacts not only with the black resistance but also with the white antiracists, in Rhodesia and South Africa. We have failed to give these people the support they need.

"Those regimes will change one day. If the developed states had the courage to resolve the problem of underdevelopment, and if we Africans practiced more lucid policies, I'm sure racism would collapse in southern Africa," Senghor said.

"In Europe, the nobility and the bourgeoisie were also small minorities with disproportionately high living standards. Yet they learned to accept a revolution -- of ideas, not arms.

"Genuine integration in the United States would set an extremely important example. The economic and moral power of the United States is so great that real integration there would be contagious. I'm not one of those who grinned slyly at the marriage of Dean Rusk's daughter. I think it was tremendously significant."

President Senghor said it was in America's interest to make peace in Viet Nam.

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"The thirty billion dollars spent there would have resolved the problems of underdevelopment in the world and poverty in the United States. Spent in South-East Asia, Africa, in America itself, that money would bar the road to communism better than anything."

On the constant diminution of U.S. aid, the Senegalese leader regretted the "powerlessness of the executive to convince the legislature" of aid's political importance.

Senghor said he expected a postwar Viet Nam to be an "independent" sort of Communist state, "Titoist rather than Maoist." Vietnamese communism would not be "evangelical" or "Messianic."

"The world conflict is not between capitalism and communism but between democracy and non-democracy. A really independent communist country can co-exist with capitalist countries," the President said.

But Senghor admitted that historically the Viet Nam conflict was an "indirect war between the U.S. and China" and that Chinese communism was "Messianic."

"We have not established diplomatic relations with Peking," Senghor said, "although we have always voted for Peking's UN admission because we think it's the only way to put China against the wall and make it see reason."

Senghor said he thought the admission of Britain and English Africa to the European Economic Community would facilitate an African Common Market.

"If Britain became a full member, the English Africans should have the same conditions as we have under the Yaoundé Convention. This would hurt us initially, but would offer long-term advantages. I have said this in Paris itself, for I always say what I think to the Toubab" (Wolof for "white man" - meaning De Gaulle).

Senghor said he believed the falling trade terms for Africa's mineral and agricultural products were caused by dumping and other big-power buy-cheap maneuvers, not supply and demand. Afro-Asian-Latin American unity on this question was needed. But Senegal's economic problems looked like they might be eased by oil discoveries.

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Commenting on the recent meetings of Senegal River Valley states (Senegal, Mali, Mauritania, Guinea), Senghor said he hoped they would lead to "at least a confederation, but better still a federation." Meanwhile, economic links would have "chronological priority, but not priority in importance." The objective was political links.

Of growing West African cooperation, he said: "We are over the age of socialist romanticism. Ideological differences between African countries mean little now. We are reaching beyond our tribal differences. The most tenacious barrier remains the curtain between English and French Africa."

He said he thought secular trade and intermarriage links plus the common French language would make the four Senegal River countries a model subgroup of the 14-nation West African regional group of the OAU. The "weak point" of the subgroup was Guinea's unconvertible currency; but in three months' time, Senghor noted, Mali would once again share the French-African franc with Mauritania and Senegal.

Of the Language Curtain, he said: "At the elite level, cultural influences outweigh ethnic influences; we are more French or English than tribal. But we should try to look at our contradictory qualities as being complementary."

Senghor said his eldest son would finish his studies at Cambridge and his second boy in the U.S. He himself was taking weekly English lessons, had already read this reporter's two-volume history of Africa in the original and was translating Gerard Manley Hopkins, the British Catholic poet. "The Senegalese elite will be bilingual," but English Africans were insular, he asserted.

"I think our curiosity about others is more vivacious than that of our Anglo-Saxon neighbors. They will have to change their ideas if we are to make a united Africa."

Senghor said there would soon be an Institute at Dakar University capable of receiving "several hundred" English-speaking African students for a postgraduate year in French language and culture. In Senegal, 40,000 high school students would take English in their university entrance exams.

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The President said he also favored closer links with the Maghreb (Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia). "In Senegal, we aim to be the champions of Negritude, of Francophonie, of Trans-Saharism and of Anglo-French bilingualism.

"The future of the world lies in symbioses between false contradictions and bogus dichotomies," Senghor insisted.

Asked if he believed there would eventually be a "Eurafrica," he said: "Logic itself demands it. An umbilical cord links North and Latin America. There are certain natural ties between Eastern Europe and Asia. It is natural that there should be special links between Western Europe and Africa.

"Since the Arab and Portuguese-African elites speak French, Africa's two main languages are the two main Western European languages, French and English. Eurafrica is inevitable."

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Origin ACTION: Amembassy LAGOS
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STATE

REF: Lagos 5929

American businessman who was present at AAI-sponsored briefing session for Perm Secs has confirmed to Deptoff that statement printed in January 17 Daily Times article is generally accurate. Emphasis was on magnanimous approach of FMG toward Ibos and hope that loyal Ibo police could maintain order in East. Point made by Ayida in response to question, however, that foreign troops to police East might be acceptable to FMG under certain unspecified conditions.

END

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ACTION EUR 20

INFO AF 09, IO 13, SAH 03, AID 28, ACDA 16, GPM 03, SC 01, RSC 01, USIA 12,

H 02, NSC 10, L 03, INR 07, P 04, CIAE 00, DODE 00, SP 02, SS 20, NSA 02,

RSR 01, MM 01, /158 W

P 191300Z JAN 68
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1282
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY 338
AMEMBASSY ACCRA 213
AMCONSUL IBADAN 16
AMCONSUL KADUNA 25

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SUBJECT: FALSE BIAFRAN REPORT RE BRITISH TROOPS

1. LONDON PRESS THIS MORNING (JAN 19) REPORTS DAMAGE TO UK PROPERTY IN PORT HARCOURT BY MOBS REACTING TO BIAFRAN RADIO CHARGES THAT 1,000 BRITISH TROOPS HAD SAILED FROM LIVERPOOL JAN 6 TO HELP FMG FORCES CRUSH IBO REVOLT. BIAFRAN ACCUSATION HAS BEEN FLATLY AND REPEATEDLY DENIED BY COMMONWEALTH OFFICE SINCE IT WAS FIRST AIRED JAN 16.

PAGE 2 RUDTCR 5667 C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
2. FINANCIAL TIMES SPEAKS OF "SEVERAL HUNDRED THOUSAND POUNDS WORTH OF DAMAGE" INFLICTED ON OFFICES OF UNITED AFRICA CO. AND ELDER DEMPSTER IN PORT HARCOURT. UAC SPOKESMAN ESTIMATED VALUE OF COMPANY INSTALLATION ("BIAFRAN HOUSE") AT OVER 100,000 POUNDS. ACCORDING FT, ELDER DEMPSTER DECLINED TO

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PLACE VALUE ON THEIR BUILDING, BUT OFFICES ARE KNOWN TO HAVE HOUSED STAFF OF 60-70 PERSONS.

3. PATRICK KEATLEY, GUARDIAN'S COMMONWEALTH CORRESPONDENT, SPECULATES THAT BIAFRAN ACCUSATIONS MAY BE BASED ON GARBLED INFO ABOUT EX-TROOPSHIP S.S. NEVADA WHICH SAILED JAN 15 FROM SOUTHAMPTON WITH 965 BRITISH SECONDARY SCHOOL CHILDREN FOR "SCHOOLS CRUISE" ALONG WEST COAST OF AFRICA. KEATLEY ASSERTS THAT BIAFRANS AT ONE POINT CLAIMED TROOPS WERE "DISGUISED AS STUDENTS". HE CONCLUDES, "IF THIS IS EXPLANATION OF WHOLE TRAGIC AFFAIR, THEN IT SUGGESTS BIAFRAN INTELLIGENCE HERE IS AMATEUR IN EXTREME".

4. COMMENT: CO'S MOBERLEY (WEST AND GENERAL AFRICA DEPT) TELLS US THAT VOYAGE OF S.S. NEVADA MAY INDEED BE BASIS FOR FALSE BIAFRAN CHARGES. CO CAN OFFER NO OTHER EXPLANATION.

PAGE 3 RUDTCR 5667 C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
MOBERLEY IS INCLINED TO THINK IBOS HAVE GOTTEN INTO SUCH A STATE ABOUT BRITISH SUPPORT FOR FMG THAT THEY ARE PREPARED TO BELIEVE ALMOST ANY REPORT ABOUT BRITISH PERFIDY. BRUCE

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INFO IO 13, GPM 03, SC 01, RSC 01, USIA 12, H 02, NSC 10, L 03, INR 07, P 04,
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AMCONSUL KADUNA 2058

CONFIDENTIAL LAGOS 5985
REF: KADUNA 625 - POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
XR POL 18 NIGERIA

1. EMBASSY RECEIVED FOLLOWING REPORT FROM KADUNA JAN 17:

2. QTE: TWO RECENT REPORTS FROM KADUNA SOURCES INDICATE
GROWING BIAFRAN INTEREST IN END TO CIVIL WAR. MILTON WYNN
(PROTECT SOURCE) TIME-LIFE NEWS SERVICE SAID HE HAD CONVERSATION
IN KANO WITH AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL LAWYER REUBEN BLOOM
(BLUM) WHO HAS RECENTLY DEALT WITH BIAFRAN REPS IN CAMEROON
ON SHIPPING AND RELATED QUESTIONS. BLOOM REPORTED HE WAS
STRUCK WITH CHANGE OUTLOOK HIS BIAFRAN CONTACTS AS COMPARED

PAGE 2 RUTALS 5985CC CONFIDENTIAL
OPTIMISM FOUR MONTHS AGO. BIAFRANS NOW PESSIMISTIC AS TO
SUCCESS THEIR CAUSE AND FEEL MUST CUT LOSSES BY SEEKING
RAEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT. UNQTE.

3. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION ACTIVITIES

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By MN/ARA Date 10/5/05



Department of State

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PAGE 02 LAGOS 05985 191420Z

AND BACKGROUND REUBEN BLOOM (BLUM) AVAILABLE YAOUNDE OR
DOUALA.
GP-4. MATHEWS.

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By	MVA/ARA Date 10/5/09

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POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
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PAGE 01 KADUNA 00639 191746Z

40

ACTION AF 15

INFO INR 07, CIA 04, NSAE 00, RSR 01, RSC 01, MM 01, 1029 W

P R 191550Z JAN 68
FM AMCONSUL KADUNA
TO AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY 1265
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 602
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 13
AMCONSUL IBADAN 345

C O N F I D E N T I A L KADUNA 639
REF LAGOS 5985 - POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

1. EMBASSY SHOULD BE CAUTIOUS
ABOUT SOUNDING OUT WYNN FURTHER
ON REFERENCE REPORT. BELIEVE WYNN RETURNED LAGOS TODAY.
CONSULATE DID NOT INFORM HIM HIS REMARKS WERE BEING FORWARDED
LAGOS OR ELSEWHERE.

STOKES.

MICROFILMED BY BS/A

(1)

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Authority	VND 950503
By	MV NARA Date 10/5/03

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1-19-68
Kaduna 639

3



POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 01 DAR ES 01976 181052Z

S
ACTION AF 15

INFO MM 01, EUR 15, CU 04, GPM 03, SC 01, RSC 01, USIA 12, H 02, NSC 10, L 0
INR 07, P 04, CIAE 00, DODE 00, SP 02, SS 20, SAH 03, AID 28, IO 13,
RSR 01, /145 W

R 180830Z JAN 68
FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3704
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS 67
AMEMBASSY LONDON 370

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE DAR ES SALAAM 1976

SUBJ: "BIAFRAN" ACTIVITY IN TANZANIA

1. AUSTIN OKWU, "BIAFRAN REPRESENTATIVE TO CENTRAL AND
EAST AFRICA," ADDRESSED STUDENTS AT DAR ES SALAAM
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE JAN 16 AND GAVE PRESS CONFERENCE JAN 17.

2. OKWU TOLD STUDENTS THAT NIGERIA WAS NEVER TRUE
POLITICAL ENTITY AND THAT "BIAFRA" HAD NOT RPT NOT BROKEN AWAY
BUT HAD BEEN PUSHED OUT OF FEDZRATION. HE ATTACKED OAU

PAGE 2 RUDTCR 19760 C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
"INDIFFERENCE" TO NIGERIAN PROBLEM AND SAID "BIAFRA" WAS
WILLING TO TALK TO FMG, THOUGH OUR SOVEGEIGNTY IS NOT RPT NOT
NEGOTIABLE."

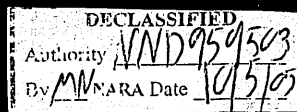
3. OKWU TOLD PRESS CONFERENCE HE WISHED AFRICAN
COUNTRIES WERE STRONG ENOUGH "TO VOLUNTEEG TO COME AND

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DAR ES SALAAM 1976 1-18-68

RECEIVED BY RS-1

0227





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PAGE 02 DAR ES 01976 181052Z

HELP US." HE SAID BRITISH CLAIMS THAT PORT HARCOURT
WAS UNDER SEIGE BY FEDERAL FORCES WERE FALSE, AND
HE ACCUSED BRITISH OF SENDING 1,000 TROOPS FROM
LIVERPOOL TO LAGOS ON JAN 6 TO ASSIST FMG.

4. OKWU IS ALSO REPORTED TO HAVE SENT LETTER TO OAU
SECRETARY-GENERAL TELLI ACCUSING HIM OF SIDING WITH FMG
IN NIGERIAN CONFLICT.
BURNS

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By	MV NARA Date 10/5/05

ORIGIN/ACTION			DEPARTMENT OF STATE			POL 27 BHFA-NIGERIA		
* AF-5			AIRGRAM					
RM/R 1	REP 5	AF 20	(ENCL REPRODUCED IN PER)			FOR RM USE ONLY		
ARA 5	EUR 5	FE	A-2227			UNCLASSIFIED		
NEA	CU	INR 5	NO.			HANDLING INDICATOR		
HAL 1	P 2	IO 5	TO : Department of State			RECEIVED		
HAH 1	FBO	AID	INFO : Lagos, Paris, Accra (with enclosure)			R/S/R JCB		
	S/P	G/PM 1	FROM : AmEmbassy LONDON			DATE: January 18, 1968		
AGR	COM	FRB	SUBJECT: British Views on Nigerian Conflict					
INT	LAB	TAR	REF : London's 5576					
TR	XMB	AIR 5						
ARMY 3	CIA 20	NAVY 5						
OSD 34	USIA 10	NSA 3						
		NSC 6						
1968 JAN 19 PM 12 25 602410-228			As stated in referenced telegram, the Embassy transmits herewith the complete text of leader from <u>Guardian</u> of January 13 entitled "Will Biafra Survive After All?". BRUCE mg/b					
			Enclosure: att. m. m. As stated					
FORM 4-62 DS-323			UNCLASSIFIED			FOR DEPT. USE ONLY		
Drafted by:			Contents and Classification Approved by:			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In <input type="checkbox"/> Out		
POL/R:A/MStearns:ps 1/17/68			POL/WJGalloway					
Clearances:								

0229

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Enclosure to London A2227

Guardian, January 13, 1968

Will Biafra survive after all? Jan 13, 1968

Nigeria's federal Government is replacing its paper currency in an effort to deprive Biafra, its secessionist opponent, of foreign exchange. It seems a desperate move. It implies recognition that the war, now in its seventh month, is still not nearly won. Ironically, it makes the two sides look less like "one Nigeria" than ever and, sadly, it creates a new obstacle to an eventual association of the two sides if Biafra should after all succeed in preserving its independence. The move has apparently not taken Biafrans by surprise, and reserves of foreign exchange as yet known only to themselves seem likely to enable them to go on fighting.

Biafra's continued resistance against overwhelming military, economic, and political odds has been a surprise not only to General Gowon; it has confounded most of the experts. Perhaps the basic mistake has been to interpret the 1966-7 crisis in terms of previous ones. The familiar tribal disputes over elections and censuses have been power struggles between politicians, affecting rival elites in their struggle for jobs, but scarcely touching the ordinary people. Biafra's secession created a situation new to Africa—a national struggle for survival involving total mobilisation. Far from leading an extremist "rebel clique," Colonel Ojukwu has turned out to be a moderate. Even before the war, the Ibos of Biafra felt they were fighting for physical survival. The brutal course of the war, in spite of General Gowon's own moderation, has vastly strengthened this feeling.

To say that the Ibos feel they are fighting for survival is not to make a moral judgment against their opponents. Nigeria's troubles have been due as much to Ibo shortcomings—culminating in the monumental ineptitude of the Ironsi regime—as anything else. But, now that many more thousand deaths have been added to the 30,000 civilians massacred in the North before the war, the Ibos have surely been punished enough. A federal military victory is still possible, but only at the cost of even worse massacres. For the federation itself it would court economic ruin, perhaps leaving parts of the economy in pawn to the Russians. Moreover, the basic objective of the war, to "keep Nigeria

one," might be further away than ever. The "victory" would probably be followed by continued guerrilla resistance—and more bitter tribal conflict than ever.

Simply to let Biafra go is itself no guarantee of peace. Left free to re-equip its forces, it might eventually launch a new war to claim compensation for past wrongs, or its share of federal assets. Similarly, the Middle Belt areas of the old Northern Region might fight to gain access to Port Harcourt. Nor is there any guarantee that the rest of the federation could stay peacefully together. However, in a choice between evils, putting an end to the present costly stalemate would seem the better way. Biafra would be viable, with oil wealth to offset the immense war damages and the influx of a million refugees. Nor would her minority problems be insuperable, though the non-Ibos are at present divided into pro-Biafra and anti-Biafra factions.

In what would remain of Nigeria, the nine newly created States could hardly be unscrambled to re-form the three old Regions. Indeed their number would be likely to be increased, after one or two additional Yoruba States and a Kanuri State have been carved out. Such a federation of perhaps twelve States, with a population of 35 million and a strong centre in Lagos, might yet prosper. Its considerable wealth would include the known oil reserves of the Midwest and perhaps others nearer to Lagos. And a close economic association with Biafra would be in the obvious interest of both sides.

How can the war be stopped? Both sides still appear ready for talks only on their own terms. Hence the failure of efforts by the OAU to mediate, and other would-be mediators seem likely to fail for the same reason. The only effective pressure can come from those who supply arms to keep the war going. Federal jet planes have come from Russia, Czechoslovakia and Sudan. But small arms and ammunition—which matter more—come from Britain. British interest has always been in stability, so that commerce may flourish and oil may flow. The prospects for that now seem worse if the war drags on than if an autonomous Biafra is allowed to exist.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

Attention *Mr. Mullett*
Keep this study together.

January 18, 1968

WH(Smith) approved NRN
1/19/68 (Kay Birdsall
to lbafford)

KB

IN REPLY REFER TO: 923

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. WALT W. ROSTOW
THE WHITE HOUSE

COPIES TO:
S/S:RF
AF
AFW
P/C

Subject: Reply of Nigerian Head of State to President's
New Year Message

A copy is enclosed of the telegram from Embassy Lagos
transmitting the reply of General Gowon, Head of the Federal
Military Government, to the President's New Year message.

The Department recommends that no reply be made.

Benjamin H. Read
Benjamin H. Read
Executive Secretary

Enclosure:

Embassy Lagos telegram.

See Deptel 91742

POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
XR POL 15-1 NIGERIA

Clearances:
AF - Amb. Trimble
S/S - Mr. Kelly

RM D RJ
AF/AFW:DFS Smith:ncs:1/17/68
x2946

POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
XR POL 17-4 US

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POL 15-1 BIAFRA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**
TR POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 05961 181057

ACTION AF 15

INFO MM 01, GPM 03, SC 01, RSC 01, USIA 12, H 02, NSC 10, L 03, INR 07, P 04,
CIAE 00, DODE 00, SP 02, SS 20, SAH 03, E 15, AID 28, NSA 02, SSR 01,
O 13, ACDA 16, XMB 06, COM 08, TRSY 08, /IP: W

R 180015Z JAN 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8985
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON 2019
AMCONSUL IBADAN UNM
AMCONSUL KADUNA UNM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 5961

SUBJECT: OKIGBO'S STATEMENT TO FINANCIAL TIMES RE WAR DAMAGE
TO "BIAFRA"

REF: LONDON'S 5321 (NOTAL)

DEPT. PASS AID/FOR INVESTMENT GUARANTIES STAFF, EXIMBANK

1) WE HAVE NOW SEEN TEXT OF FINANCIAL TIMES REPORT OF "EXCLUSIVE
INTERVIEW" WITH OJUKWU, WHICH VERY FULLY REPORTED REFTEL, AND
HAVE FOLLOWING COMMENTS.

2) OKIGBO OVERSTATES CURRENT DAMAGE TO PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

PAGE 2 RUTALS 5961CC C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
IN EASTERN STATES AS RESULT OF WAR

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1-18-68

RECEIVED 11 JAN 68

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 05973 181803Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, DOD 01, GPM 03, SC 01, RSC 01, USIA 12, H 02, NSC 10, 03,

INR 07, P 04, CIAE 00, SP 02, SS 20, SAH 03, IO 13, NSAE 00, ACDA 16,

RSR 01, MM 01, 130 W

R 181500Z JAN 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8995
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA 1514
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 357
AMEMBASSY LONDON 2021
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 991
DIA
CINCSRIKE CINCEAFSA
CINCLANT
AMCONSUL IBADAN 1568
AMCONSUL KADUNA 2055

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 5973

1. PRESS RELEASE BY MG JANUARY 17. CLAIMS CAPTURE OF
"SEVEN TOWNS AND VILLAGES" ON "ONITSHA FRONT" BETWEEN
JANUARY 6 AND 12. TOWNS NAMED AS ADANI, ADABA, UMUEZE,
ANAKU, OMO, UMABU AND IBITE OLO, DESCRIBED AS "REBEL STRONG

PAGE 2 RUTALS 5973CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
HOLDS". ACCORDING PRESS RELEASE, "IN EACH OF VILLAGES AND
TOWNS REBELS SUFFERED HEAVY CASUALTIES". AT ADABA HUNDREDS
OF REBELS CLAIMED KILLED AND SIXTY RIFLES, TEN ROCKET
LAUNCHERS, 200 ROCKETS, SOME HOME-MADE GRENADES AND HUNDREDS
OF HOME-MADE GUNS WERE CAPTURED. AT ANAKU, MANY REBELS REPORTED

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PAGE 02 LAGOS 05973 181803Z

KILLED AND LARGE QUANTITIES ARMS AND AMMO CAPTURED INCLUDING TWO NEW "CAGED TEMPELA MORTARS WITH BASE PLATES AND BOMBS", AND AT UMUEZE FIFTEEN REBEL BOATS WITH REINFORCEMENTS WERE SUNK. STATEMENT CONTINUES THAT REBELS ARE BEGINNING TO RETREAT EAST IN THIS SECTOR, DESTROYING BRIDGES AND CUTTING TREES ACROSS ROADS. "REBELS NOW ATTACK USING CIVIL DEFENDERS WITH CUTLASSES WHO SURRENDER AT SIGHT FEDERAL FORCES". MORALE OF FMG TROOPS IS "EXCEEDINGLY HIGH" AND ADVANCE CONTINUES ACCORDING PLAN.

2. THIS FIRST WAR NEWS GIVEN NIGERIAN PUBLIC FOR LONG TIME. ALL NEWSPAPERS AND RADIO CARRIED REPORT JANUARY 18. ALL TOWNS ARE WEST ROUTE THREE (INSUKKA TO ENUGU) AND ARE LOCATED PROGRESSIVELY SOUTHWARD TOWARD ROUTE TEN (ONITSHA, AWKA). DATT BELIVES LOCATIONS ANNOUNCED FIT IN WITH PROBABLE TWO-PRONGED FEDERAL DRIVE SOUTHWARD ON SECODARY ROAD NET WITH DUAL OBJECT-

PAGE 3 RUTALS 5973CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
TIVES ONITSHA AND AUKA.

3. RADIO BIAFRA ON JANUARY 15 CLAIMED THAT NIGERIAN FORCES HAD BEEN REPULSED AT AGULERI (06 20DEG-06 53DEG), NORTH OF ONITSHA ON THE ANAMBRA RIVER. TIME CORRESPONDENT ALLEN GROSSMAN, WHO WAS IN ASABA NIGHT OF JANUARY 13 REPORTED SOUNDS OF HEAVY WEAPONS FROM GENERAL DIRECTION NORTH OF ONITSHA. INFORMATION IN FMG RELEASE PREDATES JANUARY 12. SINCE THEN EMBOFFS HAVE HEARD REPORTS FEDERAL TROOPS PENETRATED AWKA, BUT THIS NOT CONFIRMED OR ANNOUNCED. DATT IS REPORTING MILITARY INFORMATION AVAILABLE IN MORE DETAILS. MATHEWS

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POL 27 BIAFRA NIGERIA

TELEGRAM

TR DEF 19 UK NIGERIA

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 05974 181744Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, GPM 03, SC 01, RSC 01, USIA 12, H 02, NSC 10, L 03, INR 07, P 04,

CIAE 00, SP 02, SS 20, NSA 02, RSR 01, ACDA 16, IO 13, MM 01, 128 W

R 181515Z JAN 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8996
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA 1515
AMEMBASSY BONN 054
AMEMBASSY LONDON 2022
AMEMBASSY PARIS 742
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 992
DIA
CINCSRIKE/CINCEAFSA
CINCLANT
AMCONSUL IBADAN 1569
AMCONSUL KADUNA 2056

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 5974

1. REPORT THAT 1000 BRITISH TROOPS ARE ON WAY TO HELP

PAGE 2 RUTALS 5974CC C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
FMG IS BEING STRENUOUSLY PROMOTED BY "BIAFRA" AND APPEARS
TO HAVE SO INFLAMED "BIAFRAN" CITIZENS THAT ATTACKS HAVE BEEN
MADE ON BRITISH OWNED PROPERTY IN PORT HARCOURT. JANUARY 16
RADIO BIAFRA REPORTED DR. EKE, COMMISSIONER FOR INFORMATION,
ANNOUNCED UK TROOPS LEFT LIVERPOOL BY SHIP JAN. 6. EKE SAID
DAY TROOPS ENTER "BIAFRAN" TERRITORY, "BIAFRA" WILL TAKE IT
"THAT BRITAIN HAS DECLARED WAR ON BIAFRA. THIS WILL ALSO
MEAN THAT WAR HAS BEEN FURTHER INTERNATIONALIZED" AND WILL

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PAGE 02 LAGOS 05974 1817447

RESULT IN COMPLETE PHYSICAL DESTRUCTION" OF BRITISH ASSETS IN "BIAFRA". THEY WILL "JUST GO UP IN FLAMES".

2. BBC CARRIED REPORT JAN. 17 PROFESSOR DIKE AND DR. PIS OKIGBO HELD PRESS CONFERENCE IN LONDON AND ACCUSED HMG OF SENDING 1000 TROOPS TO HELP FMG. BBC CORRESPONDENT WHO ATTENDED PRESS CONFERENCE SAID TWO MEN, WHO SPOKE IN STRONG TERMS, APPARENTLY CONVINCED OF TRUTH OF STORY. BBC ALSO SAID HMG PROMPTLY ISSUED VIGOROUS DENIAL.

3. JAN. 17 RADIO BIAFRA ANNOUNCED BRITISH GOVERNMENT DENIAL BUT REPEATED STORY AND ADDED THIS NOT FIRST TIME BRITAIN

PAGE 3 RUTALS 5974CC C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
HAD DENIED INVOLVEMENT. DESPITE DENIALS SHE "HAS CONTINUED TO BE MORE DEEPLY INVOLVED". RADIO FURTHER SAID COMMISSIONER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS MBU HAS SENT LETTERS TO SECGEN UN, VATICAN SECSTATE, SECGEN OAU AND COMMONWEALTH SECGEN PROTESTING DESPATCH OF TROOPS.

4. LAGOS PAPERS JAN. 18 REPORT CHRISTOPHER MOJEKWU ISSUED STATEMENT IN SWITZERLAND THROUGH GENEVA PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICE ALSO ALLEGING BRITISH TROOPS BEING SENT TO HELP FMG. LAGOS PAPERS QUOTE UNNAMED SWISS GOVT. SPOKESMAN AS SAYING FOREIGNERS FORBIDDEN ENGAGE IN POLITICAL PROPAGANDA AND SWISS POLICE INVESTIGATING BREACH OF LAW BY MOJEKWU.

5. RADIO BIAFRA REPORTED JAN. 18 THAT ON JAN. 17 DEMONSTRATORS IN PORT HARCOURT NOT ONLY PROTESTED BRITISH INVOLVEMENT AND ALLEGED DESPATCH OF TROOPS BUT ALSO BURNED DOWN HEADQUARTERS OF UNITED AFRICA COMPANY KNOWN AS BIAFRA HOUSE BUILT AT COST OF HALF MILLION POUNDS AND ALSO HEADQUARTERS BUILDING OF ELDER DEMPSTER AGENCIES. ARMY AND POLICE UNITS WHICH TRIED

PAGE 4 RUTALS 5974CC C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
TO STOP DEMONSTRATORS REPULSED BY STONES AND BRICKS.

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6. THIS HYSTERICAL CAMPAIGN AGAINST BRITISH REMINISCENT
SIMILAR CAMPAIGNS IN PAST WHEN GENERAL WAR SITUATION
GOING BADLY FOR "BIAFRA".

EXEMPT.

MATHEWS

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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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Kaduna 626
1-17-68

PAGE 01 KADUNA 00626 171540Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, SP 02, SS 20, GPM 03, SC 01, NSC 10, RSC 01, SAH 03, L 03, H 02,
P 04, USIA 12, CIAE 00, INR 07, NSAE 00, RSR 01, MM 01, 100 W

R 171500Z JAN 68
FM AMCONSUL KADUNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 594
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS 1254
AMEMBASSY LONDON 273
DIA UNN
CINCSRIKE/CINCMCAFSA UNN
AMCONSUL IBADAN 340

CONFIDENTIAL KADUNA 626
REF LAGOS 5714 — POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
PPB 10-2 US

WILTON WYNN, TIME-LIFE NEWS SERVICE, ROME, IN KADUNA ON
NIGERIA STORY, SAID HE NOT SURE WHAT KIND OF ARTICLE ON
NIGERIAN SITUATION HE AND GROSSMAN (LAGOS) WILL COME UP
WITH. HE SAID ORIGINAL INTENT HAD BEEN TO COVER ALLEGED
GENOCIDE IN NIGERIA WHICH WAS IDEA OF TIP TIME-LIFE
OFFICIALS NEW YORK WHO, WYNN BELIEVES, WERE CONVINCED OF

MICROFILMED BY NSA

PAGE 2 RUTAKA 626KK CONFIDENTIAL
GENOCIDE BY BIAFRAN INFORMATION PEOPLE IN NEW YORK. HE
SAID WHILE NEW YORK MAY BELIEVE THERE IS GENOCIDE STORY
IN NIGERIA, HE AND GROSSMAN AGREE THIS NOT CASE. WYNN
SAID THERE HAVE BEEN AND MAY BE FURTHER MASSACRES HERE
BUT HE DOES NOT SEE EVIDENCE OF NOR ENVISION GENOCIDE.
IN FACT, HE FEELS PRESENT TIME NOT RIPE FOR GOOD STORY
IN NIGERIA.

GP-4. STOKES.

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Authority	VND 959503
By	MMNARA
Date	10/5/05



POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
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NR POL 18 NIGERIA 50

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PAGE 01 KADUNA 00625 171438Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, GPM 03, SC 01, RSC 01, USIA 12, H 02, NSC 10, L 03, INR 07, P 04,
CIAE 00, SP 02, SS 20, SAH 03, NSAE 00, IO 13, RSR 01, MM 01, 113 W

R 171305Z JAN 68
FM AMCONSUL KADUNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 593
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS 1253
AMEMBASSY LONDON 272
DIA UNN
CINCSTRIKE/CINCMEAFSA UNN
AMCONSUL IBADAN 339

C O N F I D E N T I A L KADUNA 625

1. TWO RECENT REPORTS FROM KADUNA SOURCES INDICATE GROWING BIAFRAN INTEREST IN END TO CIVIL WAR. WILTON WYNN (PROTECT SOURCE) TIME-LIFE NEWS SERVICE SAID HE HAD CONVERSATION IN KANO WITH AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL LAWYER REUBEN BLOOM (BLUM) WHO HAS RECENTLY DEALT WITH BIAFRAN REPS IN CAMEROON ON SHIPPING AND RELATED QUESTIONS. BLOOM REPORTED HE WAS STRUCK WITH CHANGE OUTLOOK HIS BIAFRAN CONTACTS AS COMPARED OPTIMISM FOUR MONTHS AGO. BIAFRANS NOW PESSIMISTIC AS TO

PAGE 2 RUTAKA 625KK C O N F I D E N T I A L
SUCCESS THEIR CAUSE AND FEEL MUST CUT LOSSES BY SEEKING NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT.

2. LOCAL BRITISH SOURCE WITH WIDE CONTACTS IN EAST CLAIMS BIAFRAN REPS IN LONDON PREDICT WAR END BY MARCH 31. DUE SEVERE ECONOMIC LOSSES BOTH SIDES AND SETTLEMENT WILL INVOLVE INTERNATIONAL OR THIRD COUNTRY FORCE IN EASE TO

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PAGE 02 KADUNA 00625 171438Z

INSURE TRUCE AND PROTECT IBOS. STILL NO INDICATION IN KADUNA, HOWEVER, THAT NORTHERN LEADERS HAVE CHANGED INTENTION SEEK MILITARY VICTORY AGAINST REBELS. IN CONTRAST WITH GOWON'S DEADLINE FOR END WAR MARCH 31, HASSAN KATSINA RECENTLY STATED SOME FUNCTIONS INTERIM ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL (IAC) MAY CONTINUE AFTER THAT DATE. HASSAN STATEMENT MAY INDICATE HIS BELIEF THAT MILITARY OPERATIONS WILL CONTINUE BEYOND MARCH 31, NECESSITATING POSTPONEMENT OF FULL-SCALE TAKEOVER BY NORTH STATES GOVTS. AND EXTENSION LIFE OF IAC.
GP-4

STOKES.

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0240

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Authority	VND959503
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POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
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TR AV 15-1

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 05950 1717487

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ACTION E 15

INFO AF 09, EUR 15, INR 07, COM 08, CIAE 00, CAB 09, DODE 00, DOT 10, RSC 01,
DC 06, CCO 00, OPR 02, GPM 03, SC 01, USIA 12, H 02, NSC 10, L 03, P 04,
SP 02, SS 20, SAH 03, AID 28, NSA 02, RSR 01, NM 01, 174 W

R 171630Z JAN 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8982
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA 1511
RUFHBS/AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COTONOU 628
AMEMBASSY DAKAR 354
AMEMBASSY FORT LAMY 575
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE 302
AMEMBASSY LOME 377
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 989

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LGOS 5950

CIVAIR

BRUSSELS FOR FAA, EU-1

PAGE 2 RUTALS 5950CC C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

SUBJECT: OVERFLIGHTS FORBIDDEN OVER EASTERN STATES NIGERIA

REF: LAGOS 5912 (NOTAL)

See 2 letters
TR Pol 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

1) FEDERAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT (FMG) ISSUED PRESS RELEASE

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Authority VND 959503
By MN NARA Date 10/5/05



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TELEGRAM

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PAGE 02 LAGOS 05950 171748Z

JAN. 15 THAT PERMISSION WOULD NOT BE GRANTED TO ANY FOREIGN AIRCRAFT TO LAND AT PORT HARCOURT OR ANY OTHER AIRPORT IN THE EASTERN STATES UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE." ANNOUNCEMENT WARNED "FOREIGN AIRCRAFT OVERFLYING PLACES IN THE EASTERN STATES, PARTICULARLY CALABAR, BONNY, ENUGU AND PORT HARCOURT OF THE INHERENT RISK IN SO DOING FOREIGN AIRLINES WHOSE DIRECT ROUTES LIE WITHIN THE EASTERN STATES ARE, THEREFORE, ADVISED IN THEIR OWN INTERESTS TO RE-ROUTE THEIR FLIGHTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE GOVERNMENT WARNING. APPROPRIATE NOTICES ARE BEING SENT TO ALL THE AGENCIES DIRECTLY CONCERNED."

2) PANAM ADVISES US RULING AFFECTS ALL ITS FOUR WEEKLY AFRICAN FLIGHTS WHICH PRESENTLY OVERFLY FORMER EASTERN NIGERIA. ALTHOUGH PANAM HAS NOT YET RECEIVED ADVICE FROM FMG OR NOTAM PROHIBITING SUCH OVERFLIGHTS, PANAM MANAGER

PAGE 3 RUTALS 5950CC C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
SAID AIRLINE'S FLIGHT CONTROL CENTER ACCRA HAS ISSUED RE-ROUTING INSTRUCTIONS TO SKIRT EASTERN STATES UTILIZING DOPPLER NAVIGATIONAL AID.

3) PANAM REPORTS INCIDENT WHICH OCCURRED JAN. 14 ON FLIGHT ORIGINATING DAR-ES-SALAAM. WHEN PILOT ROUTINELY CALLED CALABAR CONTROL TOWER EN ROUTE LAGOS, HE REPORTEDLY INFORMED HE OVERFLYING CALABAR ILLEGALLY AND WOULD BE SHOT DOWN IF HE DID NOT LEAVE AIR SPACE IMMEDIATELY.

4) ROBERTS, CONTROLLER GROUND SERVICES, AVIATION DIVISION, ADVISES ORDER BANNING OVERFLIGHTS ISSUED BECAUSE FMG MILITARY WHO CONTROL CALABAR "ANNOYED BY UNKNOWN AIRCRAFT OVERFLYING CALABAR AT NIGHT." ROBERTS SAID MILITARY INSTALLING LIGHTING CALABAR AIRPORT TO PERMIT ANTI-AIRCRAFT ACTIVITY. ACCORDING ROBERTS, ALL AIRLINES AFFECTED HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED BY LETTER FROM HIS MINISTRY, AND SAID AIRLINES HAD NO ALTERNATIVE BUT RE-ROUTE FLIGHTS AROUND EASTERN STATES.

5) WE BELIEVE INTENT OF FMG ANNOUNCEMENT IS CLEARLY

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PAGE 4 RTALS 5950CC C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
TO REMOVE COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT FROM AIR SPACE OVER
EASTERN STATES (WHICH IS MILITARY ZONE) IN ORDER SINGLE
OUT ILLEGAL FLIGHTS INTO REBEL HELD AREAS.

6) IN ABSENCE ISSUANCE OF NOTAM, NEIGHBORING ADDRESSEE
POSTS SHOULD ADVISE OPERATORS AMERICAN MISSIONARY AIRCRAFT,
AIRCRAFT FERRYING SERVICES, ETC., THAT OVERFLIGHT EASTERN
STATES FORBIDDEN AND POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS.

EXEMPT MATHEWS

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DATE	10/5/03



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POL 27 BIAFRA-

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309 NIGERIA

PAGE 01 IBADAN 00347 181400Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, GPM 03, SC 01, RSC 01, USIA 12, H 02, NSC 10, L 03, INR 07, P 04

CIAE 00, SP 02, SS 20, SAH 03, AID 28, NSA 02, RSR 01, MM 01, IO 13,

/143 W

P R 171630Z JAN 68
FM AMCONSUL IBADAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 473 PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS 554
AMEMBASSY LONDON 331
AMCONSUL KADUNA 409
CINCLANT
CINCSRIKE CINCFEAFSA
DIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE IBADAN 347

SUBJECT: ASIKA VISITS WEST

JOINT CONSULATE/USIS MESSAGE NO 1. U.A. ASIKA, ADMINISTRATOR FOR
ENGU
AND OTHER LIBERATED AREAS EAST CENTRAL STATE AND FORMER LECTURER
UNIBADAN, ARRIVED IBADAN FROM MID WEST JANUARY 16 FOR
TWO DAY VISIT IBADAN AND ILE-IFE.

2. DURING PRESS CONFERENCE YESTERDAY, ASIKA SAID HE CONVINCED
ON BASIS RECENT VISITS NORTH AND MID-WEST IBOS NOT HATED.
"I HAVE BEEN ASSURED BY MEMBERS OF PUBLIC AND GOVERNMENT
IN BOTH NORTHERN AND MID-WESTERN STATES THEY PREPARED WELCOME
IBOS AFTER PRESENT WAR." ASIKA CLAIMED HE SAW IBOS IN
BOTH NORTH AND MID-WEST. HE CONTINUED: "IN WEST, IBOS ALWAYS
HOME. THEY NEVER ASKED LEAVE STATE. I AM SURE THERE

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IBADAN

347

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PAGE 02 IBADAN 00347 181400Z

STILL HUNDREDS OF THEM LIVING IN STATE NOW." REBEL CLAIM
THAT PRESENT WAR RELIGIOUS IN CHARACTER ONLY PROPAGANDA STUNT."

PAGE 2 RUTALS 34788 C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
HE SAID, "WHAT GOING ON NOW IS CIVIL WAR. THERE
BOTH CHRISTIANS AND MUSLIMS ON EITHER SIDE." HE ADMITTED
HIS EFFORTS CONTACT IBO LEADERS ACCEPTABLE GOWON OR IBO
STUDENTS FOR UNIVERSITY PLACEMENT HAVE SO FAR NOT MET SUCCESS;
HOWEVER, HE FEELS HE HAS GOTTEN THROUGH TO MAN IN TREET
OF EAST CENTRAL STATE THROUGH HIS RADIO APPEALS.

3. IN WARM WELCOME ADDRESS GIVEN BY WESTERN MILITARY
GOVERNOR, NIGHT OF 16TH, ADEBAYO FULL OF PRAISE FOR ASIKA
WHOM HE CHARACTERIZED AS "MAN OF COURAGE... AND VISION ...
ASIKA A CONVINCED NIGERIAN AND HIS PATRIOTISM FOR COUNTRY
ALL EMBRACING AND TRANSCENDS MERE SHOUTING OF SLOGANS
ABOUT ONE NIGERIA... THERE NO CONFLICT BETWEEN PARTIOTISM
AND DUTY HE OWES IBO PEOPLE ... ASIKA SHARES ASPIRATION
THOSE OF US WHO DETERMINED SEE THAT NIGERIA WHICH WILL EMERGE
OUT OF CIVIL WAR WILL BE ONE WHICH DANGER OF DOMINATION BY
ANY PART OVER OTHERS COMPLETELY ELIMINATED... WE OF WESTERN
STATE... SYMPATHIZE WITH THOSE WHO SUFFERED SICBE CRISIS
BEGA N IN 1966 AND IN CIVIL WAR WHICH HAS BROUGHT PERSONAL
GRIEF THOUSANDS NIGERIANS." ADEBAYO RECOUNTED EFFORTS RECONCILIATION
BEFORE WAR AND SAID OF WAR THAT "REBELS HAVE GOT WORST OF IT."

PAGE 3 RUTALS 34788 C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
AS TO FUTURE, ADEBAYO SAID, "WE CAN ALL SEE END IN
SIGHT AND HOPE THAT END WILL BE BEGINNING OF NEW ERA...
IF MEN OF GOOD WILL EVERYWHERE PLAY THEIR PART WORTHILY.
WE MUST NOT GO BACK TO EVILS OF FIRST REPUBLIC WHICH BROUGHT
US TO CRISIS WHICH SINCE EXCALATED INTO WAR."

4. IN MODEST AND THOUGHT PROVOKING EXTEMPORANEOUS REPLY,
ASIKA EXPRESSED APPRECIATION RECEPTIONS GIVEN HIM
THROUGHOUT HIS RECENT TRAVELS WHICH CONVINCED HIM
THERE EXISTED CERTAIN NATURAL QUALITIES SYMBOLIC OF GOOD

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PAGE 03 IBADAN 00347 181400Z

ASSOCIATION NEEDED FOR ONE NIGERIA. HE REQUESTED ALL NIGERIANS ASSIST HIM IN TASK REGAIN CONFIDENCE AND BRING BACK HIS PEOPLE TO ONE NIGERIA. HE SAID WAR BROUGHT SUFFERINGS AND PAINS MANY NIGERIANS, PARTICULARLY I AREAS HE CALLED ON TO ADMINISTER. ASIKA SAID HE HAD BEEN GIVING GREAT DEAL THOUGHT TO AN IDEA THAT HE HAD FOR SOME TIME AS CONCRETE DEMONSTRATION DESIRE OTHER NIGERIANS ACCEPT IBOS BACK. HE THEN CALLED ON ALL NIGERIANS DONATE ONE SHILLING EACH AS SYMBOLIC ACT DEMONSTRATE COMMON CONCERN ALLEVIATE SUFFERING EAST CENTRAL STATE AND ASSIST IN RECONSTRUCTION AND REHABILITATION AMONGST IBOS. HE ADDED, "OF COURSE, WE

PAGE 4 RUTALS 347BB C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
WILL ACCEPT MORE THAN ONE SHILLING FROM THOSE WHO WISH TO DONATE MORE."

COMMENT: TIGHTER THAN USUAL SECURITY MEASURES WERE IN FORCE FOR RECEPTION GIVEN AT STATE HOUSE, WHERE ALL BUT HIGHEST WESTERN OFFICIALS REQUIRED LEAVE VEHICLES AND WALK UP LON HILL FROM MAIN GATE. ATMOSPHERE T RECEPTION, HOWEVER, VERY RELAXED. ASIKA AND ADEBAYO REMARKS MORE WARMLY RECEIVED THAN USUAL.. QUITE EVIDENT YORUBA HAVE GREAT ADMIRATION COURAGE ASIKA. HE CERTAINLY MAKING ALL RIGHT NOISES CONTINUE ENJOY THEIR SUPPORT. MOST YORUBAS, INCLUDING SEVERAL COMMISSIONERS, COMMENTED FAVORABLY ON REQUEST FOR SYMBOLIC CONTRIBUTIONS FUND DEMONSTRATE DESIRE ALL NIGERIANS FOR REINTEGRATING IBOS INTO ONE NIGERIA AND IN DRAMATIC, YET UNASSUMING, MANNER IN WHICH FUND ANNOUNCED.

MITHOEFER

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3



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DEFENSE DEPT. 1-17-68

PAGE 01 171639Z

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ACTION

INFO SS 1006PM 030 INR 070 AF 060 OPR 020 IO 030 EUR 080 RSR 010 FILE 010

MM 010/042 W

P R 171450Z JAN 68
FM USDAO/LAGOS NIGERIA
TO DIA PRIORITY
SECSTATE WASHDC
CINCSRIKE
CINCLANT
INFO CIA WASHDC
DA
AMCONSUL IBADAN
AMCONSUL KADUNA
DA GRNC

C O N F I D E N T I A L 0014 JAN 68. SGD HALLIGAN. COUNTRY: NIGERIA.
SUBJECT: UPDATE CURRENT FMG/EASTERN MIL SITUATION. DIAFOR
DIACO: CINCSRIKE FOR STRJ2-C: DA FOR ACSI.

1. FOLLOWING AVAIL FROM USUALLY RELIABLE SOURCES ARMY HQ
AS OF 17 JAN: NORTHWEST SECTION (ENUGU/ONITSHA): ALL
INDICATIONS ARE GENERAL FEDERAL OFFENSIVE AIMED AT CONTROL
MAIN LINE COMMUNICATIONS (ROUTE TEN FROM ONITSHA THROUGH AWKA
THROUGH UDI) UNDERWAY BY BOTH FIRST AND SECOND FED DIVS. SOURCES

PAGE 2 RUTALS 5941CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
SAY (ALTHOUGH NO OTHER CONFIRMATION AVAIL) FIRST DIV UNITS HAVE
MOVED APPROX SIX MILES SOUTH WEST ALONG ESCARPMENT FROM VIC
OKPARA COAL MINES (SOUTHWEST OF ENUGU) TO WHERE THEY
EITHER HAVE OR ON VERGE OF TAKING TOWN UDI (0619N 0726E).
INITIAL REPORTS FROM SECOND DIV (WHICH VERY PROBABLY SEVERAL

MICROFILMED BY RS/L

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DAYS OLD AT LEAST) SAY DIV "CLOSE TO ONITSHA". (LTC OGBEMUDIA, MIL GOVERNOR MIDWEST STATE, CURRENTLY IN LAGOS SAYS HIS INFO FROM FED SEVENTH BRIGADE, SECOND DIV, ASABA, IS THAT SINCE PAST WEEKEND-13/14 JAN- HEAVY FIRING MORTARS AND/OR ARTY HAS BEEN HEARD FROM AREAS NORTH AND EAST ONITSHA). ARMY HQ, LABORING UNDER HANDICAP DEARTH OPERATIONAL REPORTS FROM NON-REPORTING MURITALLE MUHAMMED, BELIEVES SECOND DIV UNITS ALSO AT OR CLOSE TO AWKA ON ROUTE TEN. SECOND BRIGADE, FIRST DIV IN NKALAGU AREA REPORTS BRIGADE IN FIRM CONTROL ALL AREA FROM ENUGU TO NKALAGU AND SOUTH TO NYABA RIVER.

2. ALTHOUGH COMMANDER THIRD MARINE COMMANDO DIV, BEN ADEKUNLE, STILL LAGOS AS OF 16 JAN, IT BELIEVED SERIES FED RAIDS IN FORCE HAVE BEEN INITIATED BOTH EAST AND WEST PORT HARCOURT IN LIKELY PRELIMINARIES EXPECTED GENERAL OFFENSIVE THIRD DIV FROM CALABAR AT EXPECTED OBJECTIVE PORT HARCOURT. THESE RAIDS APPEAR AIMED REB

PAGE 3 RUTALS 5941CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
LINES COMMO TO AND FROM HARCOURT AREA. U.K. DEFENSE ADVISOR HAS REPORT THAT FED RAIDING PARTY REACHED PORT HARCOURT AIRPORT 14 JAN. THIS SAID TO BE SECOND OF SUCH RAIDS DIRECTLY AT HARCOURT AIRPORT WITHIN PERIOD ONE WEEK. NAF SOURCES CONFIRM INCREASE ACTIVITY HARCOURT AREA BY CLAIMING CLABAR BASED MIGS HAVE HIT HARCOURT AIRPORT TWICE IN LAST WEEK.

4. NAVAL ACTIVITY: NAVAL AUXILLIARY RETURNED APAPA FROM CALABAR 161520 JAN. SDB KADUNA TO SEA FROM APAPA 170120 JAN.

GP3

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Po/27 Biafra-Nigeria

Def 9-7 The Congo

SECRET 091

PAGE 01 LUANDA 00393 162018Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, SS 20, GPM 03, INR 07, CIAE 00, NSAE 00, DODE 00, RSR 01, RSC 01,
MM 01, 063 W

P R 161420Z JAN 68
FM AMCONSUL LUANDA
TO AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY 408
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 682
USDAO LISBON
USDAO PRETORIA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS 47

SECRET LUANDA 393

SUBJ: SAO TOME

REF: (A) USDAO PRETORIA 151055Z DEC 67

(B) LISBON 850

1. BY REF (A) USDAO PRETORIA SCHEDULED DEPART LISBON 180800Z
FOR PRETORIA. ON JAN 23 SCHEDULED TRANSIT SAO TOME AIRPORT.

2. SUGGEST HE BE BRIEFED AT EMBASSY LISBON CONCERNING SUSPECTED
TRANSIT ASSISTANCE TO "BIAFRA" VIA SAO TOME SO HE CAN
BE ON LOOKOUT FOR SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY AND AIRCRAFT WHILE THERE.
GP-3 SUMM

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SECRET

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By MVA Date 10/5/00



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PAGE 01 LAGOS 05915 170828Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, GPM 03, SC 01, RSC 01, USIA 12, H 02, NSC 10, L 03, INR 07, P 04

CIAE 00, DODE 00, SP 02, SS 20, NSA 02, MM 01, SAH 03, AID 28, I 13,

RSR 01, 143 W.

R 161725Z JAN 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8962
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA 1507
AMEMBASSY LONDON 2016
AMEMBASSY PARIS 739
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 986
AMCONSUL IBADAN 1564
UTAKA/AMCONSUL KADUNA 2047

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 5915

1. MORNING POST JAN. 15 HEADLINED REPORT THAT CENSURE
MOTION AGAINST OJUKWU PRESENTED IN REBEL CONSULTATIVE
ASSEMBLY. TEXT OF ARTICLE SAID ASSEMBLY MEETING "TO DISCUSS
DISAGREEMENTS WITHIN REEL CAMP" AND THAT CENSURE MOTION
IS "EXPECTED". POST SAYS MOTION TO BE PRESENTED BY DR.

PAGE 2 RUTALS 5915CC C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
IKENNA NZIMIRO AND THAT ALVAN IKOKU, CHAIRMAN OF ASSEMBLY,
AND N. U. AKPAN, SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, ARE REPORTED BACKING
MOTION. ARTICLE FURTHER REPORTS THAT GABRIEL EZEKWE,
FORMERLY CID HEAD LAGOS AND LATER CID HEAD "BIAFRA", IS
UNDER DETENTION BY REBEL REGIME.

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PAGE 02 LAGOS 05915 170828Z

2. RADIO BIAFRA JAN. 13, DESCRIBING DR. K. O. MBADIWE AS MEMBER OF CONSULTATIVE ASSEMBLY, SAID HE SPOKE AT "STATE" HOUSE ENUGU" AND BROUGHT MESSAGE OF SOLIDARITY FROM "BIAFRAN STUDENTS ASSOCIATION IN AMERICA." SAID STUDENTS DONATED DOL\$20,000 TO WAR EFFORT.

3. COMMENTS: DIFFICULT TO SAY WHICH OF FOREGOING STORIES HAS MORE PROPAGANDA. EMBASSY HAS NO CONFIRMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES THAT EASTERN CONSULTATIVE ASSEMBLY MEETING NOW. AKPAN, WHO IS IBIBIO AND MAY BE SUSPECT FOR THAT REASON, AND NZIMIRO, LEFT-LEANING SOCIOLOGIST, HAVE BEEN REMOVED FOR SOME TIME IN LAGOS CIRCLES TO HAVE BEEN UNDER SUSPICION IN EAST. EMBASSY HAS HEARD NO RECENT RUMORS CONCERNING VIEWS OF EZEKWE OR OF IKOKU, WHO HAS BEEN A

PAGE 3 RUTALS 5915CC C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
HIGHLY RESPECTED LEADER. IKOKU'S SON SAMUEL WAS RECENTLY RELEASED FROM DETENTION BY FMG REPORTED IN LAGOS 5438.

EXEMPT MATHEWS

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TR PET 6 NIGERIA

TELEGRAM

TR PET 6 BIAFRA

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 05894 161509Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, GPM 03, SC 01, RSC 01, USIA 12, H 02, NSC 10, L 03, INR 07, P 04,

CIAE 00, DODE 00, SP 02, SS 20, SAH 03, AID 28, INT 06, NSAE 00, RSR 01,

MM 01, 134 W

R 161010Z JAN 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8953
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS 736
AMEMBASSY LONDON 2012
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 984

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 5894

SUBJECT: OIL AND NIGERIAN CIVIL WAR

REF: PARIS 8952, 8998

1) WE HAVE NO EVIDENCE HERE THAT ERAP/SAFRAP
MIGHT BE SUPPLYING FUNDS TO THE BIAFRANS. THE NEW SAFRAP
NIGERIA MANAGER, CELERIER, TOLD EMBASSY PETROLEUM OFFICER
JAN. 15 THAT THE COMPANY HAS HAD NO CONTACT WITH BIAFRAN
OFFICIALS SINCE EVACUATING ALL ITS EXPATRIATE PERSONNEL
LAST SUMMER. COMPANY PRESENTLY HAS NO CONTACT WITH ANY
OF ITS FORMER LOCAL EMPLOYEES IN EAST. SAFRAP HAS REDUCED

PAGE 2 RUTALS 5894CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
ITS EXPATRIATE STAFF IN NIGERIA TO THREE MEN, ALL LOCATED
IN LAGOS.

2) CELERIER WAS RELUCTANT TO DISCUSS ROYALTY PAYMENTS ON

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F800006-0822
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PAGE 02 LAGOS 05894 161509Z

FIRST HALF 1967 PRODUCTION BUT IMPLIED THAT THE COMPANY HAD NOT RPT NOT MADE PAYMENT TO BIAFRANS. HE GAVE THE IMPRESSION OF WISHING VERY MUCH TO KEEP THE COMPANY ON THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE FMG. IF THERE ARE MACHINATIONS GOING ON IN THE BACK-GROUND BETWEEN ERAP AND THE BIAFRANS, WE DOUBT THAT THE LOCAL SAFRAP ORGANIZATION HAS A ROLE.

GP-3. MATHEWS

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FOIA/PRIVACY STAFF
FADRC/DR

F800006-0820

REQUESTER'S NAME Tillegson, Robert
CASE NUMBER 1982835

**DO NOT
RELEASE**

**Attached Documents
Denied
In Full or in Part**

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SOC 3 RED CROSS
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PAGE 01 LAGOS 05912 162054Z

ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, GPM 03, SC 01, RSC 01, USIA 12, H 02, NSC 10, L 03, INR 07,

P 04, CIAE 00, SP 02, SS 20, SCS 04, SCA 02, SAH 03, NSAE 00, AID 28,

SR 01, ORM 03, RSR 01, MM 01, 151 W

R 161530Z JAN 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8959
INFO DIA
CINCSRIKE/CINCEAFSA
AMEMBASSY ACCRA 1505
AMEMBASSY DAKAR 350
AMEMBASSY LISBON 069
AMEMBASSY LONDON WNPGR
AMEMBASSY MADRID 082
AMEMBASSY PARIS 738
AMEMBASSY ROME 069
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 985
USMISSION GENEVA 093

CONFIDENTIAL LAGOS 5912

REF: LAGOS 5875 AND 5829

2
PAGE 2 RUTALS 5912CC CONFIDENTIAL
1. BOTH NIGERIAN FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND BIAFRA HAVE REFUSED
PERMISSION FOR RED CROSS PLANE TO GO TO BIAFRA. THIS
INFORMATION, AS REPORTED BY REUTERS JANUARY 15, ATTRIBUTED
TO RED CROSS SPOKESMAN IN GENEVA. SPOKESMAN TOLD A PRESS
CONFERENCE THAT BIAFRAN ACTION FOLLOWS ITS REFUSAL TO SUBMIT
TO CHECK ON CARGO OF PLANE BY FMG AUTHORITIES. PLANE WOULD

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TR POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 05639 061452Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO FUR 20, IO 15, GPM 03, SC 01, RSC 01, USIA 12, H 02, NSC 10, L 03, INR 07,

P 04, CIA 04, DOD 01, SP 02, SS 20, NSA 02, ACDA 16, AID 28, SR 01,

ORM 03, MM 01, RSR 01, 172 W

R 061300Z JAN 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8843
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA 1477
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 351
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA 506
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA 641
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY 856
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 959
USUN 217
AMEMBASSY LONDON 1589
AMEMBASSY PARIS 720
US MISSION GENEVA 088
AMEMBASSY ROME 164

UNCLAS LAGOS 5639

1. FOLLOWING IS PARAPHRASE KEY PORTIONS STATEMENT MADE BY HEAD OF FEDERAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT GOWON ON JANUARY 5:
2. GREAT DEAL CLEANING UP IN PUBLIC LIFE STILL TO BE DONE AND MUST DEVISE SAFEGUARDS AGAINST ABUSE OF OFFICE AND CORRUPTION.

PAGE 2 RUDSLC 5639G UNCLAS

3. ALSO HAVE " MOST IMPORTANT TASK" REHABILITATION AND

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PAGE(S) MISSING IN ORIGINAL

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Pol 27 Biafra -

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Nigeria

PAGE 01 LONDON 05576 162232Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, MM 01, E 15, IO 13, ACDA 16, GPM 03, SC 01, RSC 01, USIA 12, H 02,

NSC 10, L 03, INR 07, P 04, CIAE 00, DODE 00, SP 02, SS 20, NSAE 00,

SAH 03, NIC 01, RSR 01, 145 W

R 161832Z JAN 68
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1202
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS 336
AMEMBASSY PARIS 2066
AMEMBASSY ACCRA 211

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 5576

NOFORN

SUBJ: BRITISH VIEWS ON NIGERIAN CONFLICT

1. AFTER PROTRACTED PERIOD OF EDITORIAL RESERVE ON NIGERIAN QUESTIONS "GUARDIAN" JANUARY 13 BROKE SILENCE WITH LEADER ENTITLED "WILL BIAFRA SURVIVE AFTER ALL?". EDITORIAL,

PAGE 2 RUDTCR 5576 C O N F I D E N T I A L
WHICH BEARS STYLISTIC AND INTELLECTUAL IMPRINT OF PATRICK KEATLY, "GUARDIAN'S" COMMONWEALTH CORRESPONDENT, ARGUES THAT "PRESENT COSTLY STALEMATE" MIGHT BEST BE ENDED BY ACCEPTING EXISTENCE OF BIAFRA.

2. "FEDERAL MILITARY VICTORY IS STILL POSSIBLE", SAYS "GUARDIAN", "BUT ONLY AT COST OF EVEN WORSE MASSACRES. FOR FEDERATION ITSELF IT WOULD COURT ECONOMIC RUIN, PERHAPS

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LEAVING PARTS OF ECONOMY IN PAWN TO RUSSIANS." ASSERTING THAT "NIGERIA'S TROUBLES HAVE BEEN DUE AS MUCH TO IBO CHORTCOMINGS...AS ANYTHING ELSE", EDITORIAL NEVERTHELESS ARGUES THAT "IBOS HAVE BEEN PUNISHED ENOUGH". FURTHERMORE, "BIAFRA WOULD BE VIABLE, WITH OIL WEALTH TO OFFSET IMMENSE WAR DAMAGES AND INFLUX OF MILLION REFUGEES. NOR WOULD HER MINORITY PROBLEM BE INSUPERABLE, THOUGH NON-IBOS ARE AT PRESENT DIVIDED INTO PRO-BIAFRA AND ANTI-BIAFRA FACTIONS".

3. REST OF NIGERIA, IN FORM OF FEDERATION OF PERHAPS

PAGE 3 RUDTCR 5576 C O N F I D E N T I A L
12 STATES (INCLUDING "ONE OR TWO ADDITIONAL YORUBA STATES AND A KANURI STATE"), WITH POPULATION OF 35 MILLION, STRONG CENTER IN LAGOS AND KNOWN OIL RESERVES IN MIDWEST "MIGHT YET PROSPER", "GUARDIAN" OBSERVES. PAPER THEN CALLS ON BRITAIN TO PUT PRESSURE ON LAGOS TO NEGOTIATE WITH IBOS ON BASIS ACCEPTANCE STATE OF BIAFRA, CONCLUDING AS FOLLOWS:

4. QUOTE. THE ONLY EFFECTIVE PRESSURE CAN COME FROM THOSE WHO SUPPLY ARMS TO KEEP WAR GOING. FEDERAL JET PLANES HAVE COME FROM RUSSIA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND SUDAN. BUT SMALL ARMS AND AMMUNITION--WHICH MATTER MORE--COME FROM BRITAIN. BRITISH INTEREST HAS ALWAYS BEEN IN STABILITY, SO THAT COMMERCE MAY FLOURISH AND OIL MAY FLOW. PROSPECTS FOR THAT NOW SEEM WORSE IF WAR DRAGS ON THAN IF AN AUTONOMOUS BIAFRA IS ALLOWED TO EXIST. END QUOTE.

5. FULL TEXT BEING POUCHED.

PAGE 4 RUDTCR 5576 C O N F I D E N T I A L
6. COMMENT: BRITISH ARE OF COURSE DISTURBED BY APPARENT INABILITY OF FMG TO TAKE DECISIVE ACTION AND BRING CONFLICT TO SPEEDY END. AT ONE TIME WHITEHALL THOUGHT THAT NEGOTIATIONS MOST LIKELY TO OCCUR WHEN BOTH SIDES LOST HOPE OF MILITARY VICTORY. NOW, WITH INTRO-

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DUCTION OF MERCENARIES, IT LOOKS AS THOUGH MILITARY
BALANCE WILL CONTINUE TO WOBLE BACK AND FORTH, CASUALTIES
TO INCREASE, AND PROSPECT FOR SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS TO
REMAIN REMOTE.

7. MEANWHILE BRITISH HAVE BIT BY BIT EDGED INTO POSITION
OF MORE OPEN SUPPORT FOR FMG MILITARY EFFORT. PURPORTING
TO FOLLOW SAME GUIDELINES ON MILITARY SUPPLY AS BEFORE
(ROUGHLY, REPLACEMENTS AND SELECTED "DEFENSIVE WEAPONS BUT
NOTHING THAT WOULD ESCALATE (CNFLICT) THEY HAVE GRADUALLY
BENT THESE TO PERMIT MORE FORTHCOMING POLICY. THUS,
COMMONWEALTH OFFICE'S ERIC NORRIS (PROTECT) INFORMED US
JANUARY 15 THAT BRITISH WERE PLANNING TO MEET
NEW FMG REQUESTS FOR MORTARS (APPARENTLY TWO INCH BUT NOT
THREE INCH) AND SARACEN ARMORED CARS (FOR USE AS ARMORED
PERSONNEL CARRIERS).

PAGE 5 RUDTCR 5576 C O N F I D E N T I A L

8. FOR THESE AND OTHER REASONS WHITEHALL IS UNLIKELY
TO FOLLOW "GUARDIAN'S" ADVICE TO BRING PRESSURE ON FMG
TO NEGOTIATE ON IBO TERMS. RATHER, BRITISH OFFICIALS
HOPE THAT FEDERAL FORCES WILL SHOW MORE ENTHUSIASM FOR
TAKING OFFENSIVE AND THAT ENOUGH EFFECTIVE MILITARY
PRESSURE CAN BE FOCUSED ON OJUKWU TO CONVINCE HIM THAT
IBO CAUSE WILL BE BETTER SERVED BY RESORT TO NEGOTIATIONS
THAN TO WHITE MERCENARIES.
BRUCE

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X R PPT 7 US

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☐ CHARGE TO

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Origin ACTION: Amembassy PARIS
Info: INFO: Amembassy LAGOS
" LISBON
" LONDON
" YAOUNDE
STATE
REF: Paris 9053
SUBJECT: X Garrison Trip

POW 27 BIAFRA - NIGERIA
X R PPT 7 US

Since proposed trip has been raised directly with New York Times, Department believes it not necessary for Embassy Paris to pursue matter further with Garrison or other members Times Paris Bureau.

END

MACROFILMED BY 65/21

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RUSK

Drafted by:

AF:AFW:RPSmith:emb 1/15/68

Tel. Ext. 6402

Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by:

AFW - Roy M. Melbourne

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EUR/PBX - Mr. Aherne (substance)

AF/P - Mr. Perkins (substance)

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DEF 12-5 BIAFRA

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INFO EUR 15, RSR 01, MM 01, NSAE 00, GPM 03, SC 01, RSC 01, USIA 12, H 02,

NSC 10, L 03, INR 07, P 04, CIAE 00, DODE 00, SP 02, SS 20, E 15, MC 01,

GDP 01, IO 13, AID 28, /155 W

PARIS-9094
1-15-68

P R 151750Z JAN 68
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8747
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN 191
AMEMBASSY ACCRA 104
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS 2783
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA 329
AMEMBASSY LAGOS 266
AMEMBASSY LISBON 677
AMEMBASSY LONDON 3790
ZNE/AMEMBASSY NIAMEY 139
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 166

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CONFIDENTIAL PARIS 9094

SUBJ: FRENCH MERCENARIES IN AFRICA

REF: A) PARIS 8724 (NOTAL)

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(B) PARIS 8998 (NOTAL)

1. FRENCH PRESS HAD SUDDENLY AWAKENED AFTER LONG SLUMBER
TO INTERESTING POSSIBILITIES INHERENT IN FRENCH MERCENARY ACTIVITIES
IN AFRICA AND ELSEWHERE. REF (A) REPORTED EARLIER EFFORT BY
WEEKLY LE CANARD ENCHAINE IN THIS VEIN. REF (B) REPORTED ARTICLE IN

(3)

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JAN 10 DAILY FIGARO ATTEMPTING JUSTIFY PRESENCE OF FRANCOPHONE MERCENARIES ON "BIAFRAN" SIDE. ADDITIONAL ARTICLES ON SAME GENERAL SUBJECT HAVE NOW APPEARED IN DAILIES L'AUREOLE AND L'HUMANITE AND WEEKLY L'EXPRESS WHILE CANARD CONTINUED ITS COVERAGE.

2. L'AUREOLE ARTICLE DATED JAN 12 DEVOTED PRIMARILY TO EXPLOITS OF COLONEL FAULQUES IN YEMEN OVER PAST FOUR YEARS BUT CONCLUDES WITH SEVERAL PARAGRAPHS ON NEW UNDERTAKING BY FAULQUES AND COLONEL DENARD IN "BIAFRA" WHERE FORMER WILL AGAIN FIND HIMSELF "UNDER FIRE FROM SOVIET MIGS".

3. L'HUMANITE IN JAN 15 EDITION QUESTIONS DIFFERENCES BETWEEN

PAGE 3 RUFNCR 9094 C O N F I D E N T I A L
STATED FRENCH POLICY OF NEUTRALITY IN NIGERIA AND CERTAIN ASSISTANCE TO "BIAFRA". IT PASSES OVER COLONELS DENARD AND FAULQUES WITH IRONIC COMMENT THAT THEIR VISITS TO PARIS COULD HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH THEIR "NEW OCCUPATIONS" AND CONCENTRATES ON ILLEGAL TRANSFER OF AIR FRANCE CONSTELLATION F BGNE LOADED WITH ARMS AND AMMUNITION TO BIAFRA VIA PORTUGAL. (DAKAR 463, PARIS 2234 AND SUBSEQUENT MESSAGES). PLANE READIED FOR TAKEOFF AT ORLY AUGUST 17 FULLY LOADED WITH ARMS AND AMMUNITION, VIOLATING ALL SAFETY REGULATIONS. PILOT WAS FORMER AIR FRANCE PILOT LANGUILLAUME (KILLED OVER LAGOS) WHO NO LONGER HELD VALID PILOT'S LICENSE AND WAS LEGALLY PROHIBITED LEAVE FRENCH SOIL BECAUSE OF PENDING CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION (PARIS 5407). DESPITE THESE OBSTACLES, CONSTELLATION F BGNE TOOK OFF FOR LISBON AT 0643 AUGUST 17 LABELLED AS AIR FRANCE FLIGHT 1037 AFTER INTERVENTIONS BY CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITIES (SGAC) AND COURT LIFTED RESTRICTIONS ON PLANE AND PILOT WHO QUALIFIED FOR NEW LICENSE DURING FLIGHT OF AIR FRANCE 1037 TO LISBON, THANKS TO IN-FLIGHT EXAMINATION GIVEN BY SPECIAL TEAM FROM AIR FRANCE. ARTICLE CONCLUDES THAT WHILE AIR FRANCE HAS CERTAIN RESPONSIBILITY FOR AFFAIR, PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY LIES WITH "CERTAIN SERVICES ATTACHED TO PRESIDENCY OF REPUBLIC" WHOSE CONNECTIONS WITH AIR FRANCE MADE PUBLIC DURING

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BEN BARKA AFFAIR.

4. L'EXPRESS IN JAN 15-21 EDITION HAS ARTICLE ON ABORTIVE DENARD ATTACK ON KATANGA, SPOTLIGHTING TWO UNSUCCESSFUL ATTEMPTS BY GROUP OF HIS MEN TO RESCUE GODFRIED MUNONGO FROM PRISON ON NIGHTS OCT 30 AND 31ST. ARTICLE REFERS TO PRESENCE SEVERAL FRENCHMEN IN ADDITION TO DENARD AND SAYS PARIS WAS ORIGIN OF OPERATION BUT DOES NOT DIRECTLY CHARGE OFFICIAL FRENCH COMPLICITY. IT DOES ACCUSE "MAN FROM PIDES" IN LISBON, REACHED THROUGH M. LOMOT AT TELEPHONE NUMBER 362-751, AS TAKING CHARGE OF DENARD AND HIS MEN ONCE THEY REACHED PORTUGAL, AND MOVING THEM TO CONGO (K) BORDER. ARTICLE CONCLUDES WITH FAILURE OF DENARD FORAY AND ARRIVAL IN LUANDA FROM PARIS OF FAULQUES TO "PREPARE NEW OPERATION IN BIAFRA".

5. CANARD IN JAN 10 EDITION SPECULATES THAT "BIAFRA" IS RUNNING OUT OF CASH AND THIS IS HINDERING RECRUITMENT MERCENARIES, INCLUDING DENARD. IMMINENT COLLAPSE OF SECESSION NOT, HOWEVER, PLEASING TO EVERYONE. THIS IS TRUE, "AT THE ELYSEE, FOR EXAMPLE, WHERE EVERY EFFORT HAS BEEN MADE TO AID

PAGE 5 RUFNCR 9094 C O N F I D E N T I A L
DISCREETLY THE SECESSIONISTS". FOCCART IS SAID TO HAVE LOST HIS LUCKY TOUCH (SNIDE REFERENCE TO SOGLO AFFAIR).

6. COMMENT: MOST INTERESTING THING ABOUT THESE ARTICLES IS NOT THEIR CONTENT, MUCH OF WHICH HAS BEEN KNOWN FOR SOME TIME, BUT SUDDEN CHORUS OF DAILIES AND WEEKLIES SINGING ESSENTIALLY SAME THEME. SUCH A SPATE OF PUBLICITY MIGHT MAKE LIFE SOMEWHAT UNCOMFORTABLE FOR M. FOCCART, ESPECIALLY IF IT STIMULATES OCAM STATES TO CRITICIZE PRESENCE OF FRENCH MERCENARIES IN AFRICA. HOWEVER, WHILE THERE IS AMPLE EVIDENCE IN ARTICLES TO AROUSE SUSPICIONS OF COVERT FRENCH BACKING FOR MERCENARY OPERATIONS, THERE IS NOT ENOUGH TO SUPPORT ANY DEFINITIVE CONCLUSIONS. MOST STRIKING CASE IS CONSTELLATION AFFAIR CITES BY HUMANITE BUT, AS WE HAVE NOTED, FRENCH UNOFFICIAL POLICY SEEMS TO HAVE SWUNG AWAY FROM "BIAFRA" SINCE LAST FALL.
GP-3 WALLNER

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INFO EUR 15, GPM 03, SC 01, RSC 01, USIA 12, H 02, NSC 10, L 03, INR 07, P 04,

CIAE 00, DODE 00, SP 02, SS 20, NSAE 00, SCS 04, SCA 02, MSR 01, MM 01,

/103 W

DECLASSIFICATION DATE 6/23/80
PER Shaw OFFICE CDC
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R 131204Z JAN 68
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8727
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS 265
AMEMBASSY LISBON 476
AMEMBASSY LONDON 3785
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 165

POL 27 BIAFRA - NIGERIA
PPT 746

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 9053

SUBJ: GARRISON TRIP

REF: LAGOS 5780; YAOUNDE 8145; STATE 97633; LONDON 5466

1. EMBOFF WARNED GARRISON OF SERIOUS RISKS INVOLVED DURING COURSE OF CONVERSATION JAN. 3 REPORTED PARIS 8724. GARRISON RESPONSE SAME AS THAT REPORTED BY LONDON. IN VIEW OF SECOND WARNING GIVEN BY GARRISON BY LONDON AND ACTION TAKEN BY DEPT., SHOULD WE PURSUE MATTER FURTHER HERE WITH GARRISON OR OTHER MEMBERS TIMES PARIS BUREAU?

WALLNER

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INFO GPM 03, EUR 08, SS 10, INR 07, L 03, OPR 02, ID 03, RSR 01, FILE 01,
MM 01, 054 W

P R 131215Z JAN 68
FM USDAO/LAGOS NIGERIA
TO DIA PRIORITY
SECSTATE WASHDC
CINCSRIKE
CINCLANT
INFO CIA WASHDC
DA
AMCONSUL KADUNA
AMCONSUL IBADAN
DA GRNC

CONFIDENTIAL 0010 JAN 68. SGD HALLIGAN. COUNTRY: NIGERIA.
SUBJECT: UPDATE CURRENT FMG/EASTERN MIL SITUATION. DIA FOR
DIACO; CINCSRIKE FOR STRJ2-C; DA FOR ACSE.

1. FOLLOWING AVAIL FROM USUALLY RELIABLE SOURCES ARMY HQ AS OF
13 JAN 68:

A. SECOND FED DIVISION SOURCES CONFIRM OPERATIONAL LINK UP BETWEEN
MURITALE MUHAMMED'S SECOND DIV, NEWLY ARRIVED EAST CENTRAL STATE

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PAGE 2 RUTALS 5861CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
FROM MIDWEST VIA IDAH, WHERE BLK DIV CROSSED NIGER RIVER
COMMENCING 30 DECEMBER; AND MUHAMMED SHUWA'S FIRST DIV WHICH HAS
OPERATED THIS FROM SINCE COMMENCEMENT HOSTILITIES 06 JULY 67;
EFFECTED EARLY THIS WEEK. DIV LIAISON OFFICER'S EXCHANGED AND
COMMO ESTABLISHED DIVISIONAL BOUNDARIES FOR NEW PHASE FED

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OFFENSIVE OPS ESTABLISHED ROUTE THREE WHICH MAIN ROUTE SOUTH FROM MAKURDI THROUGH OTURKPO, NSUKKA, NINE MILES CORNER, ENUGU, AWGU, UMAHIA, ABA AND TERMINATION PORT HARCOURT. LOGISTICAL BASE FOR BOTH DIVS MAKURDI WHERE COMPLEX HAS BEEN EXPANDED TO MEET NEW DEMANDS. ROUTE THREE WILL SERVE AS MAIN LINE COMMUNICATIONS BOTH DIVS. SECOND DIV ACTUALLY COMMENCED OPS APPROX P DECEMBER. (DATT COMMENT: ALTHOUGH SOURCES DID NOT SO STATE, IT BELIEVED FROM CONSIDERATION LIKELY MISSION BOTH DIVS AND TERRAIN INVOLVED, THAT MAIN AXIS ADVANCE SECOND DIV IN INITIAL PHASE OPERATION MOST LIKELY BE FROM ADORU (0613N 0710E). IF AND WHEN PROBABLE AWKA OBJECTIVE REACHED PORTIONS DIV LIKELY TURN WEST TOWARD ONITSHA AND EAST TOWARD UDIAS IT KNOWN LONG STANDING FUNDAMENTAL OBJECTIVE FMG ON NORTHERN FRONT HAS BEEN CONTROL MAIN LINE COMMUNICATIONS LAGOS.

PAGE 3 RUTALS 5861CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
BENIN, ONITSHA, AWKA, UDI, ENUGU, ABAKALIKI, UGOJA. IT ALSO BELIEVED FMG HAS SPECIALLY BUILT BAILEY BRIDGING FOR DESTROYED ONITSHA END NIGER BRIDGE STORED VICINITY ASABA. IMMEDIATE OBJECTIVES FIRST DIV THIS TIME NOT YET CLEAR IF, IN FACT, DIV IS TO MOVE IN COORDINATION SECOND DIV DRIVE. IF DIV DOES MOVE, HOWEVER, MOST LIKELY OBJECTIVE IS ABAKALIKI WITH POSSIBILITY MOVES COULD EMBRACE MOVE SOUTH FROM ENUGU TOWARD AWGU. SOURCES REPORT REBEL FIFTY FOUR BRIGADE WITH HQ OGIDI (0609N 0651E) (EAST OF ONITSHA) WITH RESPONSIBILITY ONITSHA, AWKA, UDI LINE HAS COMMENCED REALIGNMENT ITS BNS -ELEVEN, FOURTEEN, NINETEEN. TO MEET DEVELOPING FED SECOND DIV THRUST. (DATT COMMENT: THIS NEW FED MOVE ON NORTHERN FRONT BECOMES, IN EFFECT, CORPS TYPE OPERATION. TO DATE, HOWEVER, NO CORPS COMMANDER APPOINTED. MATTER HAS BEEN DISCUSSED WITH HASSAN KATSINA WHO SEES NEED FOR SUCH COMMANDER, OR AT VERY LEAST, LOGISTICAL COORDINATOR AT MAKURDI, BUT APPARENTLY RULES HIMSELF OUT ON GROUNDS HE "TOO BUSY THIS TIME." ARMY AND GOWON APPARENTLY HOPING OPERATIONS WILL RUN SMOOTHLY DESPITE LACK CORPS COMMANDER FOR OVERALL OPERATION. SOME DIFFCULTY COULD BE ENCOUNTERED, HOWEVER, AS PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN MUHAMMED AND SHUWA BELIEVED TO BE

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PAGE 4 RUTALS 5861CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
JUST ABOUT BARELY CORDIAL. IT POSSIBLE ALSO, HOWEVER, THAT LAGOS
COUNTING ON PROFESSIONAL RIVALRY BETWEEN TWO TO MOTIVATE EACH TO
PEAK PERFORMANCE CRITICAL OPERATIONS AHEAD).
B. CALABAR: COLONEL BEN ADKUNLE, COMMANDER THIRD MARINE
COMMANDO DIV STILL IN LAGOS AND STILL "SHOPPING FOR LITTLE MORE
THIS AND LITTLE MORE THAT" (ALTHOUGH AUXILIARY NNS KWA RIVER
DEPARTED LAGOS FOR CALABAR 111800A AND CHARTER VESSEL SS DIXCOVE
DEPARTED LAGOS FOR CALABAR 121000A. BOTH HEAVILY LOADED
TROOPS - 800 ON DIXCOVE ALONE - AMMO, VEHICLES, SUPPLIES, ETC).
IN LAGOS, AT HQ, THIRD DIV REAR, TASK HAS BECOME SO COMPLEX THAT
JOB FORMERLY HELD BY LTC I.B.M. HARUNA ALONE NOW BEING SPLIT IN
TWO. LTC A.A. OCHEFU, RECOVERING FROM SEVERE LEG WOUNDS RECEIVED
EARLY CALABAR CAMPAIGN, WILL COMMAND THIRD DIV REAR (LOGISTICS AND
ADMIN) WHILE HARUNA WILL ASSUME COMMAND NEW TACTICAL HQ CALLED
LAGOS DEFENSE BRIGADE WHICH WILL ENCOMPASS LOCAL UNITS TO INCLUDE
MAJOR JOE GARBA'S FEDERAL GUARD BN. (DATT NOT CERTAIN THIS POINT
WHETHER LAGOS DEFENSE BRIGADE UNDER COMMAND THIRD DIV, WHICH
SEEMS UNLIKELY, BUT WILL CHECK THIS ONE OUT).
C. BONNY: RF PAR 2 MY 0007 JAN 68: SOURCES SAY JOINT OPERATION
AGAINST DAWES ISLAND DESCRIBED REF PARAGRAPH WAS FED BN SIZED

PAGE 5 RUTALS 5861CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
OPERATION. BN MOVED FROM BONNY ISLAND THROUGH OPOBO CHANNEL
AND CREEK (JUST NORTH BONNY ISLAND COMPLEX) THENCE NORTH THROUGH
NETWORK CREEKS RUNNING NORTH PARALLEL TO BUT EAST OF THE MAI
BONNY CHANNEL. SURPRISE ACHIEVED THIS FASHION AND SEVERAL
GROUPS REBEL FORCES ON WAY SOUTH TO BONNY FROM DAWES AMBUSHED.
IN SAME FASHION, SURPRISE ACHIEVED AT DAWES ITSELF. AS REPORTED,
FEDS CLAIM MANY REB CASUALTIES, CAPTURE LARGE AMOUNTS SUPPLIES
AND ETC, AND DESTRUCTION THREE REBEL RIVER BOATS. EFFECT THIS
OPERATION SAID TO HAVE MUCH EEEDED EFFECT BREAKING REB PRESSURE
BONNY AND OF RAISING MORALE HARD PRESSED FED FIFTEENTH BRIGADE AT
BONNY UNDER COMMAND LTC IPOOLA AKINRINADE. SOURCES SAY THAT
WEEKEND 26/07 JAN WAS ANOTHER ("TOUGH TO AT BONNY". SITREPS AT
ARMY HQ INDICATE THAT AT ONE POINT, FOLLOWING DEATH HIS SECOND IN
COMMAND LTC F.A. ONIFADE (1967 GRAD INF OFFICERS CAREER COURSE,
BENNING), AKINRINADE SO DESPERATE HE HE "MAY HAVE COME CLOSE TO
LOSING HIS NERVE". ALTHOUGH AKINRINADE CAME "VERY CLOSE" TO

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BEING RELIEVED COMMAND, HE EVENTUALLY SUCCEEDED IN STABILIZING SITUATION AND REMAINS IN COMMAND ALTHOUGH BRIGADE NOW UNDER DIRECT CONTROL ADEKUNLE AND THIRD DIV CALABAR.

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2. NAVAL ACTIVITY:

A. IN ADDITION KWA RIVER AND DIXCOVE, REFERRED TO ABOVE, FOLLOWING DEPARTURES FROM APAPA "TO SEA" NOTED: FRIGATE NIGERIA 111800A; LCT LOKOJA 111400A.

B. PATROL CRAFT OGOJA ARRIVED LAGOS FROM BONNY 131130A.

3. MISCELLANEOUS:

A. HEAVIEST RECRUITING EVER NOTED HAS BEEN TAKING PLACE BONNY CAMP, VICTORIA ISLAND, LAGOS, OVER LAST THREE DAYS.

B. LTCOLONELS C.O. ROTIMI, QMG NIG ARMY; AND I.B.. HARUNA, FORMER CHIEF ORDNANCE; BOTH INVOLVED IN PURCHASES FED ARMS, AMMO AND EQUIP EUROPE IN PAST; ACCOMPANIED BY MAJOR LAL, INDIAN ARMY AMMO/ORD OFFICER SECONDED TO NIGERIAN ARMY; DEPARTED LAGOS FOR CONTINENT 10 JAN. ITINERARY BELIEVED INCLUDE SWITZERLAND, SPAIN, GERMANY, POSSIBLY FRANCE, AND U.K. GP-3.

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YR Pol BIAFRA-FR

PET 1 NIGERIA

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, GPM 03, SC 01, RSC 01, USIA 12, H 02, NSC 10, L 03, INR 07, P 04

CIAE 00, DODE 00, SP 02, SS 20, MM 01, RSR 01, IO 13, INT 06, E 15,

COM 08, TRSY 08, SAH 03, NSAE 00, /150 W

R 121535Z JAN 68
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8689
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS 262
AMEMBASSY LONDON 3768
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE 1619
AMEMBASSY COTONOU 087
AMEMBASSY FORT LAMY 129
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 163
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY 136

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 8998

SUBJECT: QUAI OFFICIAL ON NIGERIAN OIL POLICY

REF: PARIS 8952

Pol 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
YR Pol BIAFRA-FR
PET 1 NIGERIA

PAGE 2 RUFNCR 8998 C O N F I D E N T I A L

1. AT DEGAULLE'S RECEPTION AT ELYSEE JAN 10 ECONMIN SPOKE TO JORDAN, CHIEF OF GENERAL AFFAIRS, ECONOMIC DIVISION, FONOFF, ABOUT CHAUVEL ARTICLE IN THE FIGARO. JORDAN REACTED FORCEFULLY WITH FLAT DENIAL THAT FRENCH GOVERNMENT FOLLOWING POLICY FAVORING "BIAFRAN" REBELLION. FURTHER HE SAID ERAP/SAFRAP BEING GOVERNMENT CONCERN CLEARLY COULD NOT FOLLOW POLICY INDEPENDENT OF GOVERNMENT. HE SAID FIGARO ARTICLE WAS "INACCURATE AND UNTRUE" AND NOTED THAT FIGARO LINE HAS BEEN CONSISTENTLY IN FAVOR OF

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"BIAFRA". HE COMMENTED THAT FRENCH GOVERNMENT DOES NOT RPT NOT CONTROL PRESS BUT MUST SUFFER CONSEQUENCES OF PRESS DISTORTIONS.

2. ECONMIN ASKED JORDAN WHAT DECISION SAFRAP HAD FINALLY TAKEN ON QUESTION OF AUGUST 15 ROYALTY AND RENT PAYMENTS DUE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT. JORDAN REPLIED HE DID NOT KNOW BUT THAT SAFRAP OFFICIALS ENJOYED GOOD RELATIONS WITH FEDERAL OFFICIALS AND WISHED CONTINUE THEM.

3. HE SAID SAFRAP WAS IN SERIOUS POSITION SINCE ALL ITS

PAGE 3 RUFNCR 8998 C O N F I D E N T I A L
PRODUCING CONCESSIONS WERE LOCATED IN EASTERN REGION AND THEREFORE CONTROLLED BY "BIAFRANS". FURTHERMORE FEDERAL OCCUPATION OF BONNY OIL TERMINAL HAD COMPLETELY HALTED ALL SAFRAP SHIPMENTS SINCE LAST SUMMER. CONTRARY TO CHAUVEL'S SUGGESTION THAT ERAP/SAFRAP WORKING AGAINST SHELL/BP, BOTH COMPANIES WERE IN SAME BOAT. HE COMMENTED THAT GULF, ONLY AMERICAN PRODUCER, HAD BEEN VERY LUCKY IN HAVING ITS EXPORT TERMINAL AND PRODUCING AREAS IN MID WEST AND UNDER CONTINUOUS FEDERAL CONTROL. HE SAID LACK OF NIGERIAN PRODUCTION HAD BEEN PARTICULARLY FELT TIME ARAB-ISRAELI WAR LAST SUMMER AND STILL WOULD BE MOST USEFUL IF IT COULD BE GOTTEN BACK INTO PRODUCTION.

COMMENT: JORDAN IS BRUNET'S RIGHT-HAND MAN ON INTERNATIONAL OIL QUESTIONS AND HAS BEEN THE KEY FIGURE IN FRENCH MANEUVERS TO REPLACE BRITISH, AMERICANS AND DUTCH IN IRAQ OIL PICTURE. ALTHOUGH HIS COMMENTS REFLECT STANDARD QUAL LINE ON NIGERIA, THERE IS ALWAYS POSSIBILITY THAT RIGHT HAND MAY NOT KNOW WHAT LEFT HAND IS DOING.

WALLNER

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F800 006 - 0779

REQUESTER'S NAME Tnegson-Robert
CASE NUMBER 7902835

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, GPM 03, SC 01, RSC 01, USIA T2, H 02, NSC 10, L 03, INR 07, P 04,
CIAE 00, SP 02, SS 20, NSAE 00, SAH 03, RSR 01, MM 01, SCS 04, SFA 02,
O 02, PER 02, OPR 02, PPT 02, COM 08, E 15, 137 W

R 121700Z JAN 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8926
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON 2005
AMEMBASSY PARIS 732
CINCSTRIKE/CINCMEAFSA
DIA
AMCONSUL IBADAN 1557
AMCONSUL KADUNA 2036

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 5831

REF: LAGOS 5714 AND 5780 *pol 27 Biafra*

1. IN VIEW GROWING EMOTIONAL ANTI-MERCENARY ATTITUDE HERE,
WHICH NOW ENHANCED BY FMG PUBLICITY MERCENARY ALLEGEDLY SHOT
ON CALABAR FRONT, BELIEVE WE HAVE SPECIAL OBLIGATION WARN PO-
TENTIAL TRAVELLERS TO WAR ZONE ON EITHER SIDE OF CONSIDERABLE
AND INCREASING DANGER THAT THEY MAY BE TAKEN FOR MERCENARY,
WITH CONSEQUENCES WE HAVE SEEN IN RECENT INCIDENTS.

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POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
CONFIDENTIAL 988

IBADAN 341
1-12-68

PAGE 01 IBADAN 20341 12195Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15,USIE 00,OPM 03,SP 01,REC 01,H 02,NSC 10,L 03,INR 07,P 04,
CIAE 00,SP 02,SS 20,NSAE 00,IO 13,ACDA 16,RSR 01,MM 01,114 W

P R 121345Z JAN 68
FM AMCONSUL IBADAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 471
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS 548
AMEMBASSY LONDON 332
AMCONSUL KADUNA 405
CINCLANT
CINCSRIKE/CINCEAFSA
DIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L IBADAN 341

JOINT CONSULATE/USIS MESSAGE

SUBJECT: PROMINENT YORUBAS CARRY DISAGREEMENT TO PRESS.

1. CURRENT PRESS CONFLICT BETWEEN FMG OWNED "MORNING POST" AND WESTERN NEWSPAPERS CONTINUED TODAY WITH RESPONSE JANUARY 11 DAN ZAKI "POST" ARTICLE BY "OMO WEST", WHICH MEANS "SON OF THE WEST", CARRIED IN BOTH AG LEADING "TRIBUNE" AND WESTERN GOVERNMENT OWNED "DAILY SKETCH." YESTERDAY I WAS INFORMED THAT LATEEF JAKANDE WAS WRITING THIS ARTICLE. JAKANDE, MANAGING DIRECTOR

PAGE 2 RUTALS 341 C O N F I D E N T I A L
AFRICAN PRESS, PUBLISHERS OF THE "TRIBUNE", IS GENERALLY CON-
CEDED IN WEST TO BE LEADING SUPPORTER AND IN LAGOS STATE.

2. JAKANDE CHARACTERIZES "POST" ARTICLE "FRIVOLOUS ATTACKS

3

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JAN 11-68
5780

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, P 04, SCS 04, SCA 02, PPT 02, GPM 03, SC 01, RSC 01, USIA 12,

H 02, NSC 10, L 03, INR 07, CIAE 00, DODE 00, SP 02, SS 20, NSA 00,

OPR 02, RSR 01, MM 01, 107 W

DECLASSIFICATION DATE 6/23/80

PER SHELLER OFFICE CDC

FADRC FOI CASE NO. 7902835

R 111235Z JAN 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8906
AMEMBASSY PARIS 724
INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON 68
AMEMBASSY LONDON 1998
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 969

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 5780

REV: PARIS 8724

PPT 7 US
TRPPT 27 BIAFRA NIGERIA

SUBJ: TRAVEL BY AMERICAN CITIZEN TO "BIAFRA"

1. EMBASSY NOTES PARA SIX REFTEL REPORTS NY TIMES CORRESPONDENT GARRISON PLANNING TRIP TO "BIAFRA" THIS MONTH.

2. EMBASSY WISHES POINT OUT POTENTIAL DANGER TO AMCITS TRAVELLING IN AREA WHERE USG CAN PROVIDE NO RPT NO PROTECTION. EMBASSY HAS PUBLICLY ADVISED AMCITS NOT RPT NOT TRAVEL FORMER EASTERN REGION.

3. IN ADDITION FOREGOING CONSIDERATIONS, DATT REPORTED

PAGE 2 RUTALS 5780CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
JAN. 9 THAT MOOD FMG OFFICERS AT ARMY HEADQUARTERS IS "VICIOUS"

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PAGE 02 LAGOS 05780 111417Z

CONCERNING WHITE MERCENARIES AND HE BELIEVES ANY EUROPEANS FALLING INTO HANDS FMG TROOPS WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BE TREATED "RATHER RUTHLESSLY IN ATTEMPT SET PATTERN FOR TREATMENT TO BE METED OUT OTHER MERCS CONTEMPLATING COMING TO BIAFRA". WE KNOW FMG TROOPS IN FIELD ARE HIGHLY SUSPICIOUS STRANGE EUROPEANS, AND HAVE HAD PREVIOUS REPORTS SIMILAR SUSPICIONS EXIST AMONG "BIAFRAN" MILITARY AND CIVIL DEFENSE PERSONNEL.

4. PERHAPS GARRISON COULD GET INTO BIAFRA ON REBEL-ARRANGED FLIGHT VIA SAO TOME. BUT EMBASSY HAS REPORTS PORT HARCOURT AIRFIELD HAS BEEN GIVEN BAD POUNDING BY NIGERIAN AIR FORCE AND AREA IS VERY INSECURE. IT VIRTUALLY IMPOSSIBLE GET INTO BIAFRA OVERLAND FROM CAMEROON BECAUSE FMG ARMY CONTROLS ROAD FROM MAMFE TO CALABAR AS WELL AS ROAD TO IKOM. BRITISH CONSUL BUEA TOLD POL COUNSELOR JAN. 8 HE HAS NO CONTACT WITH BRITISH REMAINING IN BIAFRA BECAUSE NIGERIAN ARMY HAS EFFECTIVELY CLOSED CAMEROON BORDER TRANSIT POINTS.

5. IN THIS SITUATION, BELIEVE EMBASSY PARIS SHOULD INFORM GARRISON OF EMBASSY'S CONCERN FOR ANY AMCIT THINKING OF TRAVEL IN "BIAFRA", DESPITE HIS MANY FRIENDS IN THE AREA.

PAGE 3 RUTALS 5780CC C O N F I D E N T I A L

6. DEPT MAY WISH INFORM GARRISON'S EDITORS OF DANGER SENDING CORRESPONDENT TO EAST, EVEN ONE AS WELL-DISPOSED TOWARD "BIAFRA" AS GARRISON.

GP-4. MATHEWS

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 05805 120728Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, NEA 13, ACDA 16, GPM 03, SC 01, RSC 01, USIA 12, H 02,

NSC 10, L 03, INR 07, P 04, CIAE 00, SP 02, SS 20, SAH 03, AID 25, RSR 01,

E 15, COM 08, INT 06, MM 01, /199 W

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FADRC FOI CASE NO. 7902835

R 111700Z JAN 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8919
INFO DIA
CINCSRIKE/CINCMCAFSA
CINCLANT
AMEMBASSY ACCRA 1489
AMEMBASSY LONDON 2002
AMEMBASSY PARIS 728
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 973

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1. REUTERS NEWS FILE CARRIES FOLLOWING ITEM DATED JANUARY 10 FROM PARIS.

2. "BOTH THE NIGERIAN FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND BIAFRA ARE NOW

PAGE 2 RUTALS 5805CC C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
USING SO MANY MERCENARIES THAT THEIR CONFLICT HAS BECOME A
"EUROPEAN CIVIL WAR," THE PARIS NEWSPAPER LE FIGARO WROTE TODAY.
IN A DESPATCH FROM A CORRESPONDENT, M. JEAN FRANCOIS CHAUVEI,
WHO HAS JUST VISITED NIGERIA, THE NEWSPAPER SAID: "FOR THE
FIRST TIME IN THE HISTORY OF AFRICA, MERCENARIES FACE EACH
OTHER TODAY, TRANSFORMING A

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PAGE 02 LAGOS 05805 120728Z

HATRICIDAL CONFLICT BETWEEN AFRICANS INTO A EUROPEAN CIVIL WAR". THE NEWSPAPER ADDED: "ALL THE NATIONS OF THE OLD CONTINENT ARE REPRESENTED IN THE TWO CAMPS, WITH A PREPONDERANCE OF ENGLISH-SPEAKERS ON THE FEDERAL SIDE AND FRENCH-SPEAKERS ON THE BIAFRAN SIDE. THE MERCENARIES ON THE BIAFRAN SIDE ARE MUCH FEWER". THE NEWSPAPER CLAIMED THAT FEDERAL MIGS WERE BEING FLOWN BY EGYPTIANS AND THERE WERE ALSO BRITISH AND SOUTH AFRICAN PILOTS ON THE FEDERAL SIDE RECRUITED INDIVIDUALLY BY A BRITISH MERCENARY OFFICER, COLONEL PETERS. THE NATIONALITIES OF THE MERCENARIES ON EITHER SIDE REFLECTED THE INTERESTS LYING BEHIND THE "WAR OF PRINCIPLES" IN NIGERIA. BRITISH

OIL COMPANIES, FOR ONE, WERE WORRIED, PARTICULARLY SINCE THE "ARE ALREADY IN DIFFICULTY IN IRAQ", THE NEWSPAPER SAID. "LONDON'S POSITION AT THE TIME OF THE ISRAELI-ARAB CONFLICT

PAGE 3 RUTALS 5805CC C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
IN JUNE HAD COST THE BRITISH OIL COMPANIES THEIR TRADITIONAL POSITION IN OSSOPOTAMIA, TO THE PROFIT OF PARIS WHICH HAS JUST SIGNED SUBSTANTIAL AGREEMENTS WITH BAGHDAD".
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PAGE 01 PARIS 08952 112122Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, GPM 03, SC 01, RSC 01, USIA 12, H 02, NSC 10, L 03, INR 07, P 04,

DODE 00, SP 02, SS 20, NSAE 00, CIA 04, IO 13, AID 28, E 15, COM 08,

INT 06, TRSY 08, RSR 01, MM 01, /179 W

R 111752Z JAN 68
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8665
AMEMBASSY LAGOS 260
AMEMBASSY LONDON 3763
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE 1617
ZEN/AMEMBASSY COTONOU 86
AMEMBASSY FT LAMY 128
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 160
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY 135

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 8952

SUBJECT: KIL AND THE NIGERIAN CIVIL WAR

REFERENCE: LONDON 5341

SVI. ARTICLE BY JEAN-FRANCOIS CHAUVEL IN JANUARY 10 LE FIGARO COMMENTS ON CONFLICT BETWEEN BRITISH AND FRENCH INTERESTS

PAGE 2 RUFNR 8952 C O N F I D E N T I A L
IN NIGERIAN CIVIL WAR. (FIGARO HAS BEEN STRONG AND CONSISTENT BACKER OF REBELLION SINCE BEGINNING.) REFERRING TO PRESENCE MERCENARIES ON BOTH SIDES, CHAUVEL NOTES "PREPONDERANCE OF ANGLOPHONES ON FEDERAL SIDE AND OF FRANCOPHONES AMONG BIAFRANS." THIS CLEAVAGE OF NATIONALITIES REFLECTS "THAT OF THE INTERESTS SILHOUETTED BEHIND THE BATTLE OF PRINCIPLES." ON ONE SIDE

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PAGE 02 PARIS 08952 1121227

SHELL AND BP WHICH "AT BEGINNING OF WAR COUNTED ON RAPID VICTORIES BY FEDERAL FORCES TODAY " FIND THEMSELVES MORE COMMITTED TO FEDERAL SIDE THAN THEY WISHED". THE BIAFRANS "NOW TURN TOWARD FRANCE, THE OTHER PARTY ON THE PETROLEUM MARKET THROUGH ERAP AND ITS NIGERIAN AFFILIATE SAFRAP." THE FRENCH, "MORE PRUDENT, HAVE REFRAINED FROM INTERVENING IN THIS QUAPREL UP TO NOW, WHICH HAS PERMITTED THEM TO KEEP INTACT THEIR POSSIBILITIES IN BIAFRA. THIS IS INDEED WHAT TROUBLES THE ENGLISH COMPANIES, ALREADY PLACED IN DIFFICULTY IN IRAQ BY POSITION OF LONDON AT TIME OF ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT, WHICH HAS CAUSED THEM TO LOSE THEIR TRADITIONAL POSITION IN MOSCOPOTAMIA TO THE BENEFIT OF PARIS, WHICH HAS JUST SIGNED SUBSTANTIAL AGREEMENTS WITH BAGHDAD."

PAGE 3 RUFNCR 8952 C O N F I D E N T I A L
COMMENT: LIKE ALL FIGARO REPORTERS WHO HAVE WRITTEN ON NIGERIA CHAUVEL IS STRONGLY PRO-IRO AND IS REPORTED ABOUT TO RETURN TO "BIAFRA" TO MAKE MOVIE. TONE OF ARTICLE SOUNDS LIKE ATTEMPT TO JUSTIFY PRESENCE FRENCH MERCENARIES FIGHTING ALONGSIDE IROS. NEW AND INTERESTING ANGLE IS HIS STATMENT ABOUT POSITION ERAP/SAFRAP WHICH, IF TRUE, COULD EXPLAIN ONE SOURCE OF FUNDS FOR "BIAFRA". WE HAD BEEN UNDER IMPRESSION SAFRAP HAD GIVEN UP HOPE OF DOING BUSINESS WITH "BIAFRA", NOW OR IN FUTURE BUT THIS MAY NOT BE SO. BEFORE FOOLING AROUND HERE (WITH PEOPLE WHO MANAGED FRENCH POLICY SWITCH ON IRAQ) WE ARE INTERESTED IN WHAT LAGOS KNOWS ABOUT CHAUVEL STATEMENT OF SAFRAP POSITION. WHAT COMPANY ACTUALLY DID ABOUT AUGUST 15 ROYALTY PAYMENT DUE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT MIGHT BE ONE INDICATOR.
WALLNER

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 00002 120705Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, MM 01, NSA 02, RSR 01, SAH 03, SR 01, ORM 03, GPM 03,
SC 01, RSC 01, USIA 12, H 02, NSC 10, L 03, INR 07, P 04, CIAE 00, SP 02,
SS 20, 119 W

LAGOS 5804
11-11-68

R 111700Z JAN 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8918
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA 1488
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 355
AMEMBASSY COTONOU 625
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA 514
AMEMBASSY LONDON 2001
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA 657
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY 864
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 972
AMEMBASSY ROME 065
AMEMBASSY PARIS 727
AMCONSUL IBADAN 1556
AMCONSUL KADUNA 2033
DIA
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PAGE 2 RUTALS 5804CC C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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SUBJECT: "BIAFRAN" POLICE DEFECTORS HOLD PRESS CONFERENE

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PAGE 02 LAGOS 00002 120705Z

IN LAGOS.

1. EIGHT OF EIGHTY-ONE POLICE WHO GAVE THEMSELVES UP TO FEDERAL FORCES, AFTER ESCAPING FROM REBEL-HELD AREAS IN FORMER EASTERN REGION, WERE INTRODUCED AT PRESS CONFERENCE JANUARY 10. INFO MEDIA WERE PLAYING UP POLICE OFFICERS' REPORTS OF "FAMINE, FEAR AND DISTRESS" IN REBEL-HELD AREAS.

2. ALL EIGHTY-ONE APPARENTLY NON-IBOS ALTHOUGH THEY NOT ALLOWED GIVE THEIR NAMES OR PLACES OF ORIGIN TO CORRESPONDENTS. EIGHT ON DISPLAY SAID IN ANSWER QUESTIONS THAT REBELS MISTREATING MEMBERS MINORITY TRIBES IN "BIAFRA", AND THAT OJUKWU HAD NEVER TRUSTED MINORITIES.

3. POLICEMEN ALSO CLAIMED "SOME" OF "BIAFRA'S" WHITE

PAGE 3 RUTALS 5804CC C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
MERCENARIES WERE CAMPED AT TEACHER TRAINING COLLEGE AT OWERRI AND ARE TRAINING "BIAFRAN" MILITARY.

4. AFTER BEING INTERROGATED, AND PRESUMABLY INVESTIGATED AS TO THEIR FULL LOYALTY TO FMG, THEY ARE NOW BEING RETURNED TO FULL DUTY AS MEMBERS NIGERIAN POLICE FORCE.

5. WHILE UNCRITICAL LOCAL PRESS MAY HAVE BEEN OVERENTHUSIASTIC IN PLAYING UP HOW BAD CONDITIONS ARE IN "BIAFRA", IT STILL IMPORTANT THAT POLICE DID RETURN TO FMG SERVICE VOLUNTARILY AND THAT THEY HAVE BEEN PUBLICLY REINSTATED.

DECONTROL JAN 11, 1969.

MATHEWS

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TR POL 15-1 BIAFRA 45

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 05795 112134Z

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ACTION SS 70

INFO MM 01/071 W

R 111450Z JAN 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8912
INFO CINCSRIKE/CINCMEAFSA
DIA
CINCLANT
AMEMBASSY LONDON 2000
AMEMBASSY PARIS 726
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 971

SECRET LAGOS 5795R

LIMDIS

SUBJ: OJUKWU'S PLAN TO ESCAPE FROM BIAFRA

1. WHILE ON HOLIDAY TRIP TO CLIMB MT. CAMEROON, POLITICAL COUNSELOR CALLED ON BRITISH AND NIGERIAN CONSULS AT BUEA, WEST CAMEROON. BRITISH CONSUL ON JANUARY 8 SAID HIS INFORMATION INDICATES NIGERIAN ARMY EFFECTIVELY CONTROLS TRANSIT POINTS FROM EASTERN NIGERIA INTO CAMEROON. THEREFORE, CONSUL HAS NOT HAD ANY CONTACT "FOR WEEKS" WITH OVER 100 BRITISH CITIZENS STILL LIVING IN "BIAFRA". HE ALSO COMMENTED THAT

PAGE 2 RUTALS 5795CC SECRET
WHILE SEVERAL THOUSAND REFUGEES FROM BIAFRA WENT INTO CAMEROON DURING EARLY PERIOD OF CIVIL WAR, VERY FEW HAVE GONE RECENTLY AND THAT CAMEROON GOVERNMENT IS HANDLING ITS RELATIONS WITH NIGERIA AND PROBLEMS POSED BY BIAFRA VERY ASTUTELY.

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2. NIGERIAN CONSUL ABDULLAH, WHOM POL COUNSELOR HAD KNOWN WHEN IN LAGOS OVER A YEAR AGO, WAS FRIENDLY AND TALKATIVE ON JANUARY 9. MOST INTERESTING POINTS IN ABDULLAH'S COMMENTS FOLLOW:

A. ABDULLAH ASSERTED WITHOUT EQUIVOCATION THAT NIGERIAN ARMY CONTROLS ROAD FROM BORDER AT EKANG ALL THE WAY TO CALABAR. HE SAID THAT LAST WEEK HE HAD DRIVEN IN LAND-ROVER FROM MAMFE IN CAMEROON AS FAR AS OBAN (NORTHEAST OF CALABAR), TALKED WITH NIGERIAN ARMY PERSONNEL THERE, AND RETURNED TO MAMFE. EARLY IN JANUARY HE HAD ALSO DRIVEN ON OTHER BRANCH OF ROAD FROM MAMFE ACROSS NIGERIAN BORDER TO IKOM WHERE HE TALKED WITH NIGERIAN ARMY OFFICERS AND RETURNED TO CAMEROON.

B. ABDULLAH SAID PRESSURES ON OJUKU HAD INCREASED SO MUCH THAT HE HAD PLANNED TO ESCAPE FROM BIAFRA ABOUT JAN. 1. ABDULLAH, WHO HAS NETWORK OF INFORMANTS AMONG IBOS AS WELL

PAGE 3 RTALS 5795CC S E C R E T

AS OTHER NIGERIANS IN CAMEROON, CLAIMED THAT ARRANGEMENTS HAD BEEN MADE FOR OJUKWU TO ESCAPE AS FOLLOWS: FROM AFIKPO HE WOULD CROSS INTO AREA SOUTH OF DBUBRA AND GO TO EKANG ON CAMEROON BORDER FROM WHERE CAR WOULD TAKE HIM TO MAMFE. THEN HE WOULD GO DOUALA WHERE BOAT WAS WAITING TO TAKE HIM TO SAO TOME. ABDULLAH SAID HE "SIGNALLED LAGOS" ABOUT THIS AND ASKED FOR INSTRUCTIONS. FMG REPLY WAS TO ADVISE CAMEROON AUTHORITIES TO "CLOSE THEIR EYES" AND LET OJUKWU ESCAPE. UNFORTUNATELY,

ABDULLAH SAID, OJUKWU BECAME SUSPICIOUS -- PRESUMABLY BECAUSE TOO MANY PEOPLE KNEW ABOUT ARRANGEMENTS -- AND DID NOT LEAVE. WHEN ASKED WHY OJUKWU SHOULD GO TO TROUBLE OF OVERLAND ESCAPE THROUGH CAMEROON WHEN HE COULD USE PLANE DIRECTLY FROM BIAFRA TO SAO TOME, ABDULLAH CLAIMED THAT AIRFIELD AT PORT HARCOURT HAD BEEN BADLY DAMAGED BY BOMBING. MOREOVER, HE POINTED OUT THAT OJUKWU COULD NOT AFFORD TO BE RECOGNIZED AT DEPARTURE POINT SUCH AS PORT HARCOURT WHERE MANY BIAFRAN MILITARY LOCATED. FOR SAME REASON OJUKWU DID NOT WANT TO LEAVE DOUALA BY AIR BECAUSE OF DANGER OF RECOGNITION AT AIRPORT.

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3. ABDULLAH CLAIMED THAT BECAUSE PRESSURE AGAINST OJUKWU WERE INCREASING SEVERAL BIAFRAN ARMY AND POLICE OFFICERS HAD

PAGE 4 RUTALS 5795CC S E C R E T
BEEN EXECUTED BY FIRING SQUADS RECENTLY. ABDULLAH SEEMED GENERALLY WELL-INFORMED MENTIONING, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT BIAFRANS HAVE BUILT SMALL EMERGENCY AIRSTRIPS AT PLACES NEAR OVERRI AND UMUHIA BY USING LEVEL STRETCHES OF PAVED ROAD AND CLEARING BUSH AROUND THEM.

4. COMMENT. EMBASSY HAS NO INFORMATION TO CONFIRM ABDULLAH'S REPORT OF OJUKWU'S PLAN TO ESCAPE. SUCH KNOWLEDGE, OF COURSE, WOULD BE HELD VERY CLOSELY BY FEW NIGERIANS WHO MIGHT KNOW ABOUT IT. EMBASSY SUSPECTS THAT ONLY REASON WHICH WOULD DRIVE OJUKWU TO ESCAPE WOULD BE FEAR OF ASSASSINATION OR OF SIGNIFICANT REVOLT AMONG BIAFRAN TROOPS. ABDULLAH IMPLIED SITUATION INSIDE BIAFRA GETTING QUITE BAD, BUT EMBASSY IS NOT IN POSITION ASSESS ACCURACY HIS STATEMENTS.

MATHEWS

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S/S-S Line <u>1</u>	H _____	IGA <u>6</u>	MilRep _____
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S/S-S Follow-Up _____	IO _____	V. P. _____	
Master File <u>1</u>	L _____	S/S-Fxec. Secretary _____	
S/S <u>7</u>	NEA _____	PM Summary <u>1</u>	
S <u>1</u>	P _____	S/S-O DDir _____	
U <u>1</u>	SCA _____	SCS _____	
M <u>1</u>	SCI _____	Other <u>S/C 1</u>	
S/S-S Dir _____	ACDA _____	<u>SIG-1</u>	
S/AR <u>3</u>	AID EXSEC <u>1</u>	<u>3</u>	
S/IL _____	AA/AFR _____	AA/FE _____	
S/P <u>1</u>	AA/NESA _____	CAP _____	
G _____	G/PM <u>1</u>	White House <u>6</u>	
O _____	CPR _____	SY _____	
A _____	OPR _____	WLG _____	
AF <u>X</u>	<u>3</u>	USIA _____	
ARA _____	AGR _____	COM _____	
CU _____	EXIM _____	FRF _____	
E _____	LAB _____	NASA _____	
EUR <u>1</u>	<u>9</u>	NSA _____	
BTF _____	NF _____	PC _____	
FE _____	VN _____	STR _____	
	TRSY _____	File _____	
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Notes: _____

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 Authority VND959503
 By MV Date 10/5/03

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PAGE 01 111532Z

53
ACTION AF 15

INFO SS 10:00PM 03:1NR 07:10 03:ACDA 07:SSO 00:EUR 08:RSP 01:MM 01:

FILE 010/056 W

P R 111245Z JAN 68
FM USDAO/LAGOS NIGERIA
TO DIA PRIORITY
SECSTATE WASHDC
CINCSRIKE
CINCLANT
INFO CIA WASHDC
DA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
AMCONSUL KADUNA
AMCONSUL IBADAN
DA GRNC

S E C R E T 0010 JAN 68. SGD HALLIGAN. COUNTRY: NIGERIA.
SUBJECT: UPDATE CURRENT FMG/EASTERN MIL SITUATION. DIA FOR
DIACV. CINCSRIKE FOR STRJ2-C. DA FOR ACSI.
IN VIEW RUMORS RAMPANT LAGOS MORNING 11 JAN AS TO FACT FMG
"HAD BODY DEAD WHITE, FRENCH MERCENARY" AT MINISTRY OF DEFENSE

MICROFILMED BY 502

PAGE 2 RUTALS 5786CC S E C R E T
BUILDING, DATT AND DAO STAFFERS CONTACTED USUALLY RELIABLE
SOURCES ARMY HEADQUARTERS, MOD BUILDING. ALTHOUGH SOURCES
RELUCTANT DISCUSS MATTER. FOLLOWING INFO OBTAINED:
A. COMBAT PATROL FEDERAL THIRD MARINE COMMANDO DIV CALBAR IN 10 JAN
ACTION
PARROT ISLAND (0449N 0817E) SOUTH OF CALBAR AND EAST OF

SECRET

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ORON IN CROSS RIVER CHANNEL AMBUSHED REBEL PATROL ON ISLAND. ALL MEMBERS OF PATROL KILLED BY FEDERAL FIRE.

B. AMONG THOSE KILLED WAS WHITE MALE DRESSED IN BIAFRAN MILITARY UNIFORM.

C. ONLY DOCUMENTATION THAT DATT SOURCES WOULD IDENTIFY THIS POINT WAS "MAP OF CALABAR RIVER PRINTED IN FRENCH CARRIED IN POCKET WHITE MERCENARY KILLED".

D. NO FURTHER DETAILS THIS POINT, BUT BECAUSE STATUS OF DATT SOURCE AND PAST RELIABILITY DATT ACCEPTS AS FACT SUCH A WHITE BODY IN POSSESSION FMG LAGOS.

GP=3.

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Pol 27 Bispra Nigeria

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PAGE 01 LONDON 05377 102030Z

81
ACTION SS 70

INFO MM 01, 7071 W

R 101825Z JAN 68
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1057
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS 331

S E C R E T LONDON 5377

LIMDIS-NOFORN

REF: LONDON'S 4854

SUBJ: NIGERIA: PEACE EFFORTS OF COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT

1. ARNOLD SMITH AND YAW ADU, SYG AND DEPUTY SYG OF COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT, FILLED US IN JANUARY 9 ON THEIR EFFORTS TO GET PEACE TALKS STARTED IN NIGERIA. SMITH PREFACED HIS REMARKS BY SAYING THAT EMBARRASSING LEAK TO FMG OF STATUS OF CS INITIATIVE HAD OCCURED IN DECEMBER. IT HAD BEEN ATTRIBUTED TO US OR BRITISH SOURCE. FOR THIS REASON SMITH

PAGE 2 RUOTCR 5377 S E C R E T
URGED THAT ALL INFO ON CS EFFORTS BE CLOSELY HELD AND TREATED AS NOFORN. (WE CANNOT ASSESS VALIDITY OF SMITH'S FEAR THAT LEAD MAY HAVE COME FRO US SOURCE, BUT URGE THAT HIS AND ADU'S VIEWS BE TREATED WITH DISCRETION AND NOT DISCUSSED OUTSIDE US OFFICIAL CIRCLES. SMITH HAS BEEN EXTREMELY CANDID AND HELPFUL IN KEEPING US UP TO DATE ON HIS EFFORTS AND WE WOULD NOT LIKE CHANNEL TO DRY UP.

2. SMITH SAID THAT IBO REPRESENTATIVES, MOJEKWU

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PAGE 02 LONDON 05377 102030Z

AND DIKE, RETURNED TO LONDON AFTER CHRISTMAS AND HELD FURTHER TALKS WITH CS. THEY SAID IN PRINCIPLE OJUSWU AND OTHER IRO LEADERS WERE WILLING TO HAVE THEM DISCUSS NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT WITH SMITH, BUT SUGGESTED SMITH AND CS WORK OUT GENERAL LINES OF COMPROMISE SETTLEMENT WHICH WOULD THEN BE DISCUSSED SEPARATELY WITH BOTH SIDES. IN OTHER WORDS, THEY WERE NOT WILLING TO TAKE INITIATIVE IN PROPOSING AREAS OF COMPROMISE BUT WOULD UNDERTAKE TO OBTAIN REACTION OF IRO LEADERSHIP TO PROPOSALS MADE BY CS.

PAGE 3 RUDTCR 5377 S E C R E T

3. SMITH HAD COGITATED ABOUT THIS OVER HOLIDAYS. IT PUT CS IN DIFFICULT POSITION, WITH RESPONSIBILITY BUT NOT POWER OF COMPULSORY ARBITRATION. IT MIGHT BE NO MORE THAN STALLING TACTIC BY IBOS. AT LENGTH, AND DESPITE THESE DISADVANTAGES, SMITH DECIDED THAT PROPOSAL WAS BETTER THAN NOTHING AND CS WOULD PUT TOGETHER PACKAGE (LOOSELY PACKED) WHICH COULD BE PRESENTED INFORMALLY TO BOTH SIDES. AT WORST THEY WOULD REJECT PACKAGE. AT BEST THEY MIGHT BEGIN TALKING ABOUT IT.

4. SINCE CHRISTMAS SMITH HAS ALSO TALKED WITH FMG REP AYIDA WHO SAID GOWEN STILL FAVORED NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT. SMITH FEARED HOWEVER THAT FMG POSITION WOULD HARDEN IF SOME PROGRESS IN GETTING TALKS STARTED WAS NOT MADE SOON. AS MATTERS STAND, FMG WOULD PRESUMABLY BE WILLING TO GIVE SMITH ITS CONSIDERED VIEWS ON PACKAGE SETTLEMENT TO BE PROPOSED BY CS.

PAGE 4 RUDTCR 5377 S E C R E T

5. SMITH AND HIS STAFF ARE NOW WORKING ON CONTENTS OF PACKAGE. THEY HOPE TO HAVE SOMETHING TO DISCUSS WITH IBOS AND FMG SOON. THEY ARE AWARE THAT INTRODUCTION

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PAGE 03 LONDON 05377 102030Z

OF MERCENARIES INTO EAST, WITH ATTENDANT POSSIBILITY
THAT FIGHTING WILL ESCALATE, MEANS THERE IS NO TIME TO
BE WASTED.

BRUCE

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DISTRIBUTION

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S/S-S Follow-Up	1	IO	1	4	V. P.
Master File	1	L			S/S-Exec. Secretary
S/S	1	NEA			PM Summary
S	1	P	1	2	S/S-O DDir
U	1	SCA		SCS	Other
M	1	SCI			S/L
S/S-S Dir		ACDA			
S/AH	3	AID EXSEC			
S/IL	1	AA/AFR		AA/FE	
S/P	1	AA/NESA		CAP	
G	G/PM	White House	1		
O	CPR	CIA	1	1	
A	OPR	DOD	1	1	
AF	WLG	USIA	1	1	
ARA		AGR		COM	
CU		EXIM		FRB	
E		LAB		NASA	
EUR	1	NIC		NSA	
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ACTION AF 15

INFO GPM 03, INR 07, AID 10, IO 03, SS 10, OPR 02, NEA 06, ACDA 07, MC 01,

GDP 01, RSR 01, FILE 01, 067 W

P R 101400Z JAN 68
FM USDAO LAGOS
TO DIA PRIORITY
SECSTATE WASHDC
CINCSTRIKE
CINCLANT
INFO CIA WASHDC
DA
AMCONSUL IBADAN
AMCONSUL KADUNA
DA GRNC

C O N F I D E N T I A L 007 JAN 68.

SGD HALLIGAN. COUNTRY: NIGERIA.

SUBJECT: UDATE CURRENT FMG/EASTERN MIL SITUATION
• DIA FOR
DIACO; CINCSTRIKE FOR STRJ2-C; DA FOR ACSI.

1. COLONEL B.A. M. ADEKUNLE, SCHEDULED DEPART LAGOS FOR RETURN
CALABAR AREA 09 JAN, STILL IN LAGOS 10 JAN SUPERVISING LAST MINUTE
DETAILS CONNECTED WITH LOADING NAVAL CHARTER VESSEL DIXCOVE
(SEE PAR 3B, MY 0005 JAN 68) CURRENTLY UNDER WAY APAPA WHARFS.
VESSEL SCHEDULED SAIL FOR CALABAR 11 JAN WITH LARGE CARGO AMMO
(TO INCLUDE BOMBS), EQUIPMENT (INCLUDING TRUCKS ON DECK), AND JET

RECEIVED BY SVD

PAGE 2 RUTALS 5750CC C O N F I D E N T I A L

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FULE IN DRUMS. POSSIBLE ADEKUNLE WILL RETURN ON DIXCOVE. ADEKUNLE HAS DEFINITE ORDERS INITIATION NEW OPERATION FROM CALABAR AREA CODED "OPERATION SEA LION". (ALTHOUGH THERE SOME SPECULATION ON PART SEVERAL SOURCES OPERATION MAY INVOLVE MOVE NORTH FROM CALABAR AIMED AT IKOT OKPORO ON CROSS RIVER (0525N 0804E), DATT OF OPINION MOVE ACROSS CROSS RIVER FROM CALABAR AND/OR CREEK TOWN AIMED AT ORON NOT TO BE RULED OUT ENTIRELY. ONE OF LIKELY INDICATORS WILL BE MOVES NIGERIAN NAVY NEAR FUTURE AS ORON OPERATION SHOULD REQUIRE RATHER SUBSTANTIAL NAVAL SUPPORT).

2. USUALLY RELIABLE ARMY SOURCES SAY FED OPERATIONS BONNY CONTINUE WITH FED FORCES SLOWLY PUSHING PERIMETER BACK OUT FROM BONNY TOWN. VILLAGE ATSAMA APPROX ONE MILE SOUTH EAST BONNY WITHIN COCONUT ESTATERETAKEN 09 JANUARY. ALSO ON 09 JANUARY A WELL PLANNED AND CONDUCTED JOINT FED AMPHIB OPERATION WAS LAUNCHED DIRECTLY NORTH UP BONNY CHANNEL FROM BONNY WITH OBJECTIVE DAWES ISLAND IN BONNY CHANNEL APPROX TWO AND ONE QUARTER MILES SOUTH OKRIKA. ISLAND HAD BEEN IN USE BY REBEL FORCES AS FORWARD BASE

SUPPORT OPERATIONS AT BONNY. FEDERAL ATTACK GAINED ELEMENT SURPRISE AND TOOK OBJECTIVE CAPTURING "LARGE QUANTITIES" REBEL

PAGE 3 RUTALS 5750CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
PERSONNEL REINFORCEMENTS FOR BONNY, ARMS, AMMO FOOD
AND SMALL BOATS.

3. NAVAL AND RELATED ACTIVITY: MOTOR PATROL BOAT ELOLE RETURNED LAGOS FROM SEA 091825 JAN. AUXILLIARY KWA RIVER STILL AT APAPA WHARF; BELIEVED LOADING. DIXCOVE AS ABOVE.

4. MISCELLANEOUS:

A. UNCONFIRMED RUMOR HEARD SEVERAL QUARTERS INDICATING PERM SEC MINEXTAF, OGBU, WHO CONNECTED WITH FMG PURCHASE MIGS FROM SOVS, NOW "IN EUROPE" ATTEMPTING PURCHASE "NIGHT FIGHTER AIRCRAFT IN ATTEMPT STOP NIGHT CARGO FLIGHTS INTO HARCOURT FROM LISBON". ONE USUALLY KNOWLEDGEABLE MOD CIV SOURCE WHEN QUERIED PROFESSED

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COMPLETE IGNORANCE DEAL BUT SAID, HOWEVER, "I DON'T KNOW ABOUT NIGHT FIGHTERS BUT I KNOW WE WOULD LIKE TO ACQUIRE SOME FIGHTER/BOMBERS". (APPROX ONE WEEK AGO DATT WAS TOLD BY ANOTHER USUALLY KNOWLEDGEABLE DIP SOURCE THAT "FMG ATTEMPTING GET RUSS IL-28 LIGHT BOMBERS FROM EGYPT WITH EGYPTIAN CREWS FOR USE IN NIGERIAN WAR".)

B. EMBASSY OFFICER WITH GOOD CONTACTS OFFICERS EAST AFRICAN EMBASSY TOLD BY ONE THESE CNTACTS, BELIEVED KNOWLEDGEABLE THIS AREA, THERE APPROX EIGHTY FIVE FRENCH MERCENARIES IN "BIAFRA" WHO

PAGE 4 RUTALS 5750CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
INVOLVED TRAINING REBEL FORCES. CONTACT SAID MERCS TRAINING "THREE THOUSAND MEN AT A TIME IN THREE WEEK TRAINING CYCLE" (POSSIBILITY, IF TRUE, MERCS COULD BE UPGRADING MILITIA OR OTHER PARA MILITARY UNITS INTO REGULAR MIL FORCES).

C. KNOWLEDGEABLE MIL SOURCE SAID MATTER CONTRACT FOR MAINTENANCE NAF PLANES, EXCLUSIVE OF MIGS BUT INCLUSIVE OF DELFINS, NOW UP IN AIR AS CONTRACT EXPECTED TO BE AWARDED GERMAN FIRM DORNIER NOW ALSO BEING SOUGHT BY U.K. FIRM.

D. AS OF 8 JAN, IN SECURITY MOVE, GOVERNOR MIDWEST STATE HAS BANNED RIVER BOATS FROM PLYING NIGER DELTA IN MIDWEST STATE BETWEEN HOURS 7:30 PM AND 6AM. OFFENDERS WILL BE SEVERELY DEALT WITH.

GP-3.

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 05716 092033Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, GPM 03, SC 01, RSC 01, USIA 12, H 02, NSC 10, L 03, INR 07, P 04,

CIAE 00, SP 02, SS 20, SAH 03, NSAE 00, RSR 01, MM 01, IO 10, ACDA 16,

OPR 02, /128 W

R 091545Z JAN 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8873
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA 1482
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 352
AMEMBASSY COTONOU 622
AMEMBASSY DAKAR 340
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA 508
AMEMBASSY LOME 373
AMEMBASSY LONDON 1992
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA 086

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA 651
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY 860
AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU 307
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 1962
DIA
CINCSRIKE/CINCMCAFSA
AMCONSUL IBADAN 1551
AMCONSUL KADUNA 2024

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 5716

1. REBEL RADIO IN BIAFRA ALLEGED JANUARY 5 THAT NIGERIA IS
BRINGING PRESSURE ON CAMEROON TO CLOSE BORDER BETWEEN

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CAMEROON AND BIAFRA. ACCORDING RADIO REPORT MONITORED BY FBIS, NIGERIA HAS ALSO ASKED PERMISSION TO USE IKOM VIA IKUM (IN CAMEROON) TO CALABAR ROAD, "TO RELIEVE PRESSURE ON NIGERIAN TROOPS IN CALABAR SECTOR OF WAR WHERE THEY HAVE BEEN SUFFERING HEAVY CASUALTIES". RADIO BIAFRA SAID REQUEST WAS MADE AFTER NIGERIAN AMBASSADOR IN YAOUNDE VISITED "IKUM" DECEMBER 31. ACCORDING BIAFRAN CORRESPONDENT QUOTED BY RADIO, CAMEROON MAINTAINING STRICT NEUTRALITY AND

PAGE 3 RUTALS 5716CC C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NOT EXPECTED "SUCCEED TO PRESSURE OF BLACKMAIL AND THREATS OF NIGERIA".

2. COMMENT: POSSIBLE THAT NIGERIA HAS REQUESTED PERMISSION TO RESUPPLY ISOLATED TROOP UNITS VIA CAMEROON, BUT NOTEWORTHY THAT BIAFRAN INDICATION OF CLOSED BORDER WITH CAMEROON ALSO GETS BIAFRA OFF PROPAGANDA HOOTCREATED BY PREVIOUS CLAIMS OF DEFEAT FOR NIGERIANS ON BORDER IS CLOSED WITHOUT ACTUAL RETRACTION OF VICTORY CLAIMS IN AREA BY BIAFRAN ARMY.

3. SECESSIONIST RADIO ALSO REPORTED JANUARY 7 MEETING IN ABA OF CAMEROON NATIONALS RESIDENT IN BIAFRA. STATEMENT WAS ISSUED CALLING ON GOC TO RECOGNIZE BIAFRA AS INDEPENDENT COUNTRY. ON JANUARY 8 RADIO REPORTED SIMILAR STATEMENTS ISSUED AT ABA BY RESIDENT NATIONALS FROM GHANA, TOGO, DAHOMEY AND UPPER VOLTA. COMMENT: REBEL RADIO REPORTS SUCH DECLARATIONS TO ENCOURAGE OTHER AFRICAN COUNTRIES "TO SETTLE NIGERIA-BIAFRA DISPUTE" BY RECOGNITION OF "YOUNG REPUBLIC OF BIAFRA". ALLEGED STATEMENTS ALSO CREATE PICTURE OF COSMOPOLITAN AND HARMONIOUS POPULATION INSIDE BIAFRA, WHICH PROBABLY MISLEADING. EXEMPT. MATHEWS

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ACTION AF 15

INFO CPR 02, SS 20, GPM 03, P 04, NSC 10, RSC 01, USIA 12, RSR 01, MM 01.
/069 W

R 091507Z JAN 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8864

UNCLAS LAGOS 05692

REF STATE 91667, LAGOS A-359

COMMISSIONER ARIKPO HAS ASKED ME TRANSMIT FOLLOWING REPLY TO
SECRETARY'S NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE:
QTE THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR NEW YEARS MESSAGE SENT THROUGH
YOUR AMBASSADOR IN LAGOS. I AM VERY GRATEFUL FOR THE CORDIAL
RECEPTION ACCORDED ME DURING MY VISIT IN OCTOBER AND LOOK
FORWARD TO OUR FUTURE MEETINGS UNDER HAPPIER CIRCUMSTANCES. I HOPE
WE CAN CONTINUE TO COUNT ON THE SYMPATHETIC UNDERSTANDING OF
YOUR GOVERNMENT WHICH WILL CONTRIBUTE TO THE PEACE AND PROGRESS OF
MY COUNTRY. ENDQTE
MATHWS

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XR PPB 10-2 US

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 05714 091817Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, GPM 03, SC 01, RSC 01, USIA 12, H 02, NSC 10, L 03, INR 07, P 04

CIAE 00, SP 02, SS 20, SAH 03, NSAE 00, AID 28, FSR 01, MM 01, T28 W

R 091500Z JAKP 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8872
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON 1991
DIA
CINCSRIKE/CINCEAFSA
AMCONSUL IBADAN 1550
AMCONSUL KADUNA 2023

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 5714

1. VOA CORRESPONDENT KELLY INFORMED BY GROSSMANN LOCAL TIME MAGAZINE CORRESPONDENT REQUIRE COMPLETE PROTECTION SOURCE QTE 34TH FLOOR UNGTE (EDITOR'S OFFICE) AT TIME REQUESTING MAJOR FEATURE ARTICLE ON NIGERIA FOR ISSUE WHICH WILL APPEAR LAGOS ON 24TH. SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT SCHEDULED ARRIVE LAGOS FROM ROME TO ASSIST IN PREPARATION. EITHER HE OR GROSSMAN TOLD TO GO TO "BIAFRA" TO OBTAIN THAT SIDE OF STORY. NATURE QUESTIONS POSED TO GROSSMAN BY TIME INDICATE EMPHASIS MAY BE ON ATROCITIES AGAINST "BIAFRANS" AND THUS GENERALLY PRO-

PAGE 2 RUTALS 5714CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
"BIAFRA" ARTICLE. REQUEST REEMPHASIZED FACT ARTICLE CALLED FOR BY TOP POLICY PEOPLE AT TIME.

2. IF ARTICLES LINES UP TO PRE-BILLING, WE MAY BE IN FOR MORE STORMY WEATHER WITH FMG.

GP-4. MATHEWS

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ACTION AF 15

INFO SS 10, GPM 03, INR 07, IO 03, ACDA 07, AID 10, OPR 02, RSR 01, FILE 01,
MM 01, 060 W

P R 091430Z JAN 68
FM USDAO/LAGOS NIGERIA
TO DIA PRIORITY
SECSTATE WASHDC
CINCSTRIKE
CINCLANT
INFO CIA WASHDC
DA
AMCONSUL KADUNA
AMCONSUL IBADAN
DA GRNC

S E C R E T 0005 JAN 68. SGD HALLIGAN. COUNTRY/NIGERIA.
SUBJECT: UPDATE CURRENT FMG/EASTERN MIL SITUATION. DIA FOR
DIACO, CINCSTRIKE FOR STRJ2-C; DA FOR ACS1.

1. FOLLOWING AVAILABLE AS OF THIS DATE FROM USUALLY RELIABLE
SOURCES ARMY HQ:
A. ENUGU AREA. ENUGU PROPER REMAINS QUIET AND FREE OF INCIDENTS.
EFFORTS TO PUSH OUTER SECURITY LINES FARTHER FROM ENUGU PROPER

PAGE 2 RUTALS 5706CC S E C R E T
CONTINUE. ELEMENTS FIRST BRIGADE HAVE MOVED APPROX FOUR MILES
(FIVE ROAD MILES) SOUTH ENUGU ROUTE THREE WHERE THEY HAVE
ESTABLISHED SMALL SECURITY BRIDGEHEADXOUTH SIDE NYABA RIVER.
BRIDGE ITSELF BLOWN. SMALL NUMBER IBO CIVILIANS REPORTED
MOVING BACK TO ENUGU AREA. THEY REPORTED BEING CONCENTRATED IN
SMALL, UNNAMED VILLAGE AREA JUST NORTH MILITARY BARRACKS AREA ON

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- AIRPORT ROAD AND NORTH OF EKULU RIVER.
 - B. BONNY: SOURCES SAY LAST MAJOR REBEL ATTACK OCCURRED 05 JANUARY AND SITUATION IMPROVED WITH FED FORCES PUSHING FOE FARTHER EAST ON ISLAND.
 - C. CALABAR: HAVING COMPLETED EXTENSIVE LOGISTICAL ARRANGEMENTS LAGOS AREA, AND HAVING RETURNED FROM VISIT FAMILY KADUNA, THIRD DIV COMMANDER ADEKUNLE EXPECTED RETURN CALABAR TODAY. FIGHTING CONTINUES IN OIL PALM PLANTATION AREA IN VICINITY VILLAGE ODUKPANI (0508N 0820E) APPROX ELEVEN MILES NORTH CALABAR ON IKOT OKPORO ROAD.
2. ARMY C/S BISALLA HAS STATED THAT SUPRME MIL COUNCIL NOW ACCEPTS AS FACT PRESENCE "FRENCH MERCENARIES IN BIAFRA WITH ACTIVE, ALTHOUGH COVER FRENCH GOVT SUPPORT". BISALLA SEEMED CONFIDENT

PAGE 3 RUTALS 5706CC SECRET
FEDERAL RESOURCES AND CAPABILITIES WERE ADEQUATE TO TASK AT HAND REGARDLESS TACK REBEL EMPLOYMENT FRENCH MERCENARIES TOOK. MOOD MOST OFFICERS ARMY HQ ON SUBJECT IS VICIOUS. IT STRONGLY SUSPECTED ANY "WHITE MERCENARIES" FALLING INTO HANDS FEDERAL TROOPS WILL RECEIVE NO QUARTER, AND WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BE TREATED RATHER RUTHLESSLY IN ATTEMPT SET PATTERN FOR TREATMENT TO BE METED OUT OTHER MERCENARIES CONTEMPLATING COMING TO "BIAFRAN COLORS". DATT KNOWS GOWON HIMSELF TOUGHER AND MORE VEHEMENT THIS ISSUE THAN ALMOST ANY OTHER. HE PERSONALLY STRONGLY APPROVES MOBUTU'S EFFORTS BRING FORMER CONGOLESE MERCENARIES TO TRIAL IN CONGO AND HAS COMMUNICATED THIS APPROVAL DIRECTLY TO MOBUTU. IN THIS CASE, THEREFORE, NO QUARTER POLICY FOR MERCENARIES IS KNOWN TO HAVE GOWON'S UNQUALIFIED SUPPORT.

3. NAVAL ACTIONS:
- A. ARRIVALS LAGOS FROM SEA: FRIGATE NIGERIA 061120A; MOTOR PATROL BOATS EKLIN (THIS IS THIRD NAMED OF NEW RUSSIAN ORIGIN PATROL BOATS) 061300A; SDB BONNY 061820A; KWA VER 070230-; NIG
 - NAT LINES KING JAJA FROM EUROPE WITH CARGO "COMMERCIAL EXPLOSIVES" 070700A.

SECRET

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SECRET

PAGE 03 091844Z

PAGE 4 RUTALS 5706CC S E C R E T

B. REF PAR 3D MY 004 JAN 68: DIXCOVE ARRIVED LAGOS 070700. NO
ACTION YET ALTHOUGH NIG NAVY CHARTER FIRM. GP-3.

SECRET

0302

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Authority	VND 959/503
By	MN/ARA Date 10/5/05



Department of State ^{SOC 7 VAT} **TELEGRAM**

XR POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

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Kaduna 592
1-8-68

PAGE 01 KADUNA 00592 081304Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 20, SP 02, SS 20, GPM 03, SC 01, NSC 10, RSC 01, SAH 03, IO 15, L 03

H 02, SR 01, ORM 03, SCA 02, P 04, USIA 12, CIA 04, INR 07, NSAE 00,

AID 28, PC 04, SCS 04, RSR 01, MM 01, 166 W

R 081145Z JAN 68
FM AMCONSUL KADUNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 585
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS 1226
AMEMBASSY LONDON 269
AMEMBASSY ROME 8
AMCONSUL IBAOAN 336
CINCSRIKE/CINCMCAFSA UNN
DIA UNN

CONFIDENTIAL KADUNA 592

REF KADUNA 587 - SOC 7 VAT

1. FATHER H. J. BELL, REGIONAL SECRETARY, CATHOLIC BISHOPS
EDUCATION CONCIL, KADUNA, WHO ACCOMPANIED VATICAN MISSION
TO MAKURDI REPORTS THAT EMISSARIES WELL RECEIVED IN TOUR
OF NORTH. NORTHERN HOSTS GAVE CONTINUED SPECIAL EMPHASIS
TO FMG CONTENTION THAT CURRENT STRUGGLE HAS NO RELIGIOUS

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PAGE 2 RUTALS 592KK CONFIDENTIAL
OVERTONES. ARMED FORCES CATHOLIC CHAPLAIN ACCOMPANIED
MISSION ON TOUR OGOJA, ENUGU AND CALIBAR. IF CLEARANCE
CAN BE ARRANGED MISSION WILL PROCEED TO RENDEZVOUS WITH
OJUKWU ON RED CROSS PLANE REPORTEDLY DEPARTING LAGOS JANUARY

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 05640 061535Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 20, IO 15, ACDA 16, AID 28, GPM 03, SC 01, RSC 01, USIA 12, 4 02,
NSC 10, L 03, INR 07, P 04, CIA 04, DOD 01, SP 02, SS 20, NSAE 00, SR 01,
ORM 03, TRSY 08, IGA 02, RSR 01, MM 01, 180 W

89-1-11
5640
1-6-68

R 061245Z JAN 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8844
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA 1478
AMEMBASSY LONDON 1990
USMISSION USUN 218
AMCONSUL IBADAN 1546
AMCONSUL KADUNA 2009

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 5640

REF: LAGOS 5534

SUBJECT: COMMENT ON ASIKA PLEA TO END CIVIL WAR

1. REFTEL REPORTED ADMINISTRATOR EAST CENTRAL STATE ASIKA
CALLED FOR END TO FIGHTING AND SAID FMG HAD 4 MILLION POUNDS
FOR REHABILITATION VICTIMS CIVIL WAR.

PAGE 2 RUTALS 5640CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
2. EMBOFF SUBSEQUENTLY CALLED ON SECRETARY TO ADMINISTRATOR,
CHUKWURA, TO IDENTIFY SOURCE REHABILITATION FUNDS AND PLANS
FOR ITS USE. CHUKWURA SAID THAT POUNDS 4 MILLION QTE SET ASIDE
UNQTE IN APRIL WHEN SMC ISSUED STATEMENT APPROVING 67/68
BUDGET, BUT THAT NO MONEY IN FACT YET SPENT. CHUKWURA RATHER
EVASIVE ABOUT WHAT PLANS ASIKA AND HE HAD DEVELOPED FOR

1

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PAGE 02 LAGOS 05640 061535Z

REHABILITATION WORK, GIVING IMPRESSION HE EMBARRASSED BY
APPARENT FACT FMG MOST UNLIKELY EXPEND ANYWHERE NEAR THIS
SUM ON REHABILITATION, FOR QTE RELIEF OF DISPLACED PERSONS
UNQTE AS ORIGINAL SMC STATEMENT PUT IT. EMBOFF GOT IMPRESSION

THAT ASIKA HAS STARTED WORK UP RELIEF AND RECONSTRUCTION
BUDGET, BUT MILITARY SITUATION,
MAKES IT UNSAFE FOR HIM TRY SET UP CIVIL ADMINISTRATION AT
THIS TIME. SINCE HE CANNOT OPERATE IN HIS STATE, BUDGETING
FOR SPECIFIC RELIEF AND RECONSTRUCTION PROJECTS IS COMMEN-
DABLY FORESIGHTED, BUT THERE SEEMS LITTLE PROSPECT FOR MAJOR
RECONSTRUCTION PROGRAM UNTIL MORE OF EAST CENTRAL STATE
MADE SECURE.

3. COMMENT: ASIKA CLEARLY TRYING CONVINCE IBOS FMG CONTINUES

PAGE 3 RUTALS 5640CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
MAKE PROVISION FOR THEIR ASSISTANCE WHEN AND IF HOSTILITIES
CEASE, BUT IT UNCLEAR WHETHER OR NOT HE REACHING HIS AUDIENCE.

GP-3. MATHEWS

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DEFENSE DEPT. 1-6-68

PAGE 01 061543Z

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ACTION AF 06

INFO EUR 08, SS 10, GPM 03, INR 07, MM 01, FILE 01, RSR 01, /037 W

P R 061205Z JAN 68
FM USDAO/LAGOS
TO DIA WASHDC PRIORITY
SECSTATE
CINCSTRIKE
CINCLANT
INFO CIA WASHDC
DA
AMCONSUL IBADAN
AMCONSUL KADUNA

S E C R E T 0004 JAN 68. SGD HALLIGAN. COUNTRY: NIGERIA.
SUBJECT: UPDATE CURRENT FMG/EASTERN MIL SITUATION. DIA FOR
DIACO; CINCSTRIKE FOR STRJ2-C; DA FOR ACS1.
1. FOLLOWING AVAIL AS OF THIS DATE FROM USUALLY RELIABLE
SOURCES ARMY HQ:
A. OPERATIONS SECOND DIV: REF PAR 1A, MY 0001 JAN 68: INFO
AVAIL CONFIRMS THREE BRIGADES SECOND DIV (SIX, EIGHT AND TEN)
PLUS DIV HEADQUARTERS AND SUPPORT ELEMENTS, ACROSS NIGER RIVER
AND INTO EAST CENTRAL STATE. CROSSING MADE DURING PERIOD INDICATED

RECEIVED BY 15/0

PAGE 2 RUTALS YETCC S E C R E T
REF PARAGRAPH BASICALLY FROM WEST BANK TOWN AGENERODE (0707N
0642E) TO ZDST BANK TOWN IDAH (0708N 0645E), ALTHOUGH IT POSSIBLE
ONE OR TWO BNS OF DIV CROSSED AT ILLUSHI AS SCREENING FORCE FOR
NORTHERN CROSSING. INFO ON DIV OPS BEING HELD VERY CLOSELY ARMY
HQ. C/S WILL SAY LITTLE MORE THAN "DIV ON MOVE". HOWEVER,
INDICATIONS EXIST DIV ACTUALLY, OR ON VERGE OF, MOVE SOUTH
TOWARD AWKA AND/OR UDI ON WEST FLANK ONE DIV. TWO BRIGADES
SECOND DIV (SEVEN ASABA, NINE BENIN) REMAIN MIDWEST FOR SECURITY.

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PURPOSED AND DEFENSE RIVER LINE FACING REBEL HELD AREAS. IN THIS CONNECTION, SMALL REBEL FORCE ATTEMPTED CROSS NIGER NITE 01/02 JAN ONITSHA TO ASABA. THREE BOATS USED FOR TRANSPORT RAIDING AND/OR RECON PARTY, BUT THESE, IN FASHION REMINISCENT FED ATTEMPTS CROSS ASABA/ONITSHA, RAN AFOUL NUMEROUS SAND BARS IN RIVER THIS TIME YEAR. REBEL EFFORT UNSUCCESSFUL, AND THEY SAID TO HAVE SUFFERED RELATIVELY LARGE NUMBER CASUALTIES BEFORE WITHDRAWAL EFFECTED. REBEL MOVE APPARENTLY BASED INFO MOVE SECOND DIV TO NORTH AND ON APPARENT BELIEF ASABA NOT STRONGLY HELD. FED DEFENSE CONDUCTED BY SEVEN BRIGADE, TWO DIVI. B. BONNY; BATTLE FOR CONTROL BONNY ISLAND CONTINUES WITH FED SOURCES CLAIMING FIRM CONTROL WESTERN HALF ISLAND AND EASTERN

PAGE 3 RUTALS 5635CC S E C R E T
ATTACKS DECREASING IN INTENSITY. FED REINFORCEMENTS MEN, EQUIP AND SUPPLIES CONTINUE LEAVE LAGOS FOR BONNY.
2. CALABAR AREA: COLONEL B.A.M. ADEKUNLE, COMMANDER FEDERAL THIRD MARINE COMMANDO DIV (OF NOTE: THIS NOW NEW OFFICIAL DESIGNATION THIRD FED DIV), ARRIVED LAGOS THREE JAN FOR SERIES MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES GOWON AND KEY MIL FIGURES HERE 03 THRU 05 JAN. ADEKUNLE GOES KADUNA TO VISIT MOTHER 07 JAN AND DUE BACK LAGOS FOR RETURN CALABAR 09 OR 10 JAN. ADEKUNLE HAS BEEN VERY ACTIVE WITH ARMY LOGISTICIANS, PORTS AUTHORITY AND NIGERIAN

NAVAL PERSONNEL PLANNING FOR MOVES MEN, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES TO CALABAR AREA. HE OBSERVED ONE LOCATION WORKING OVER LARGE CHECK LIST SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT AND DISCUSSING VESSELS ON WHICH INDIVIDUAL ITEMS WERE TO BE MOVED AND TIMING THEREOF. ADEKUNLE CLAIMS CALABAR FIRMLY HELD HIS DIV ALTHOUGH FOR "PAST TWO DAYS REBEL FORCES HAVE MADE UNSUCCESSFUL ATTEMPTS DISLODGE FED FORCES HOLDING CREEK TOWN" (ON WESTERN SIDE CROSS RIVER NORTH WEST CALABAR PROPER). ADEKUNLE ALSO ADMITTED RELATIVELY LARGE SCALE FIGHTING ON CALABAR/UZOT OKPORGA ROAD APPROX TEN MILES NORTH CALABAR. ADEKUNLE MAINTAINS THIS REBEL FORCE MERCENARY LED AND/OR ADVISED, BUT THAT HIS FORCES HAVE BEEN ABLE SUCCESSFULLY

PAGE 4 RUTALS 5635CC S E C R E T

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CONTAIN REBEL EFFORTS TO DATE. ADEKUNLE APPEARED HAVE LITTLE CONCERN FOR ABILITY THIS REBEL FORCE DISLODGE FED FORCES FROM CALABAR. RATHER, HE WAS ENTIRELY OFFENSIVE MINDED IN HIS OUT-LOOK ON SITUATION AND LEFT LITTLE DOUBT HE PLANNING FOR NEW, LARGER SCALE OFFENSIVE OPS FROM CALABAR AREA.

3. DATT CALLS ATTENTION GOWON PRESS CONF 05 JAN (REPORTED BY OTHER EMBASSY MESSAGES) A

ICH EMPHASIZED GOWON'S INTENT STEP UP

MIL OPS AGAINST REBEL FORCES. IT HIGHLY PROBABLE MOVES SECOND DIV INTO EAST CENTRAL STATE AND INCREASED INDICATIONS NEW OFFENSIVE IN SOUTH ARE PART THIS NEW GENERAL FED OFFENSIVE WHICH APPEARS COMMENCING AS OF THIS TIME.

3. NAVAL AND RELATED ACTIVITY

A. FRIGATE NNS NIGERIA TOOK LOAD TROOPS, AMMO, SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT TO BONNY FROM LAGOS 041600. RETURNED LAGOS 061130.

B. HIGH SPEED CAPABILITY NEWLY ACQUIRED, RUSS ORIGIN MOTOR PATROL BOATS AGAIN UTILIZED TO EXCELLENT ADVANTAGE BY FMG AND NIGERIAN NAVY 31 DEC. PATROL CRAFT, NNS OGOJA AT BONNY, REPORTED SHE DOWN "LAST FEW ROUNDS" THREE INCH AMMO. APPROX ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY ROUNDS OF LOT THREE INCH AMMO WHICH ARRIVED LAGOS VIA AIR CHARTER FROM NETHERLANDS 30 DEC LOADED ABOARD

PAGE 5 RUTALS 5635CC S E C R E T

NNS EKUNE WHICH MADE RAPID TRIP BONNY TRAVELLING "TWENTY TO TWENTY FIVE KNOTS ALL THE WAY". NAVAL SOURCES SAY TIMELY ARRIVAL AMMO FOR OGOJA AT BONNY "CONTRIBUTED IN LARGE SHARE TO DEFEAT ANOTHER REBEL ATTEMPT SEIZE BONNY TOWN".

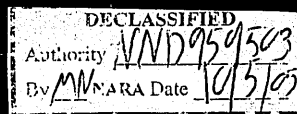
C. FOLLOWING NAVAL VESSELS AT SEA: EKUNE, SDB ENUGU AND PC OGOJA AT BONNY. SDB BENIN CROSS RIVER. AUXILLIARY KWA RIVER IN TRANSIT FROM RUN BONNY AND RETURN. SCHEDULED RAPID TURN AROUND EARLYCOMING WEEK FOR RUN CALABAR WITH TROOPS, AMMO, EQUIP AND SUPPLIES. FOLLOWING NAVAL VESSELS AT APAPA BASE: LCT LOKOJA, SDB'S KADUNA, SAPELE AND BONNY. MOTOR PATROL BOAT ELOLE. AUXILIARY BODE THOMAS (STILL IN DRY DOCK FOR MAJOR OVERHAUL AND REFITTING PRIOR PROBABLE PURCHASE BY NIGERIAN NAVY).

D. HARBOR MASTER SOURCES REPORT NIGERIANNNAVY HAS CHARTERED

ELDER DEMPSTER CARGO VESSEL "DIXCOVE", PERM CONTROL NUMBER 19702, UK FLAG, 8292 GROSS TONS, FOR MOVE TROOPS, AMMO, SUPPLIES AND

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EQUIP CALABAR ON/OR ABOUT 09 JAN. VESSEL DUE LAGOS 07 JANUARY WITH "VERY LITTLE CARGO ABOARD", WILL UNLOAD AT ONCE AND COMMENCE NAVAL CHARTER. ADEKUNLE PERSONALLY CHECKED STATUS THIS VESSEL WITH HARBOR MASTER 05 JAN.
4. MISCELLANEOUS:

PAGE 6 RUTALS 5635CC S E C R E T

A. AIR CHARTER SHIPMENTS (DANAIR DANISH FLAG CARRIER) OF

CROWN AGENT (UK) PROCURED 7.62MM, 81MM MORTAR, AND 76MM CANNON AMMO HAVE BEEN ARRIVING LAGOS FOR FMG ON STEADY SCHEDULE FOR LAST WEEK OR MORE.

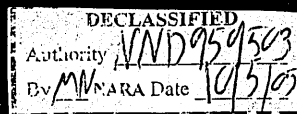
B. RELATED TO ACTIVITIES THIRD DIV CALABAR AREA AND SHIPMENT EQUIP THERETO, COMMANDER THIRD DIV REAR, LTC HARUNA, HAS BEEN VERY ACTIVE IN LAGOS AND SURROUNDING AREAS OVER RECENT DAYS REQUISITIONING (FROM PRIVATE AND/OR COMMERCIAL USERS) ALL OF THE LANDROVER AND STATION WAGON TYPE TRANSPORT HE COULD LAY HIS HANDS UPON.

C. IT PROBABLE AMINU KANO, CHAIRMAN FEDERAL PROCUREMENT COMMITTEE, FLYING U.K. 07 JAN FOR VISIT BEDFORD AND LANDROVER PLANTS TO CONCLUDE PURCHASING ARRANGEMENTS FOR LARGE ORDER OF VEHICLES FOR ARMED FORCES. SOURCES WITH GOOD INFORMATION SAY TOTAL PROBABLE PURCHASE WILL BE IN NEIGHBORHOOD ONE MILLION NIGERIAN POUNDS.

GP-3.

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POL 7 VAT
XR POL 27 Biafra - high
gain

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PAGE 01 ROME 03527 051815Z

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ACTION SS 70

INFO MM 01, /071 W

Lindis
1/5/68

Rome
3527

R 051706Z JAN 68
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5680
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS 51
AMEMBASSY LONDON 904
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 13

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 3527

LINDIS

REF: LAGOS 5523

POL 9VAT
XR POL 27 Biafra - high

1. AMBASSADOR HAD OPPORTUNITY DISCUSS VATICAN MISSION TO NIGERIA WITH VATICAN UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE CASAROLI JANUARY 3.

2. CASAROLI SAID MISSION, COMPOSED OF MSGR. CONWAY AND FATHER ROCHCAN STILL IN LAGOS, BUT HOPES SHORTLY GO TO "BIAFRA". VATICAN UNDERSTANDS SOME TWO MILLION IBO REFUGEES HAVE FLED INTO BIAFRA

PAGE 2 RUFHRO 3527 C O N F I D E N T I A L
AREA, AND MISSION HOPES EXAMINE SITUATION WITH VIEW OFFERING OR ORGANIZING HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE. VATICAN ALSO FEELS THAT SINCE BIAFRA HAS HIGH PERCENTAGE CHRISTIANS, MANY OF WHOM CATHOLICS, VATICAN MISSION CAN BE PARTICULARLY EFFECTIVE THERE.

3. PROBLEM TRANSPORTATION TO "BIAFRA" STILL OPEN. VATICAN MISSION RELUCTANT ACCEPT ANY HELP FROM PORTUGAL, HOPES OBTAIN USE OF AIRCRAFT FROM CAMEROUN AND ARRANGE FLY OVER OR AROUND COMBAT AREA.

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EUR-6		
RM/R	REP	AF
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AGR	COM	FRB
INT	LAB	TAR
TR	XMB	AIR
ARMY	CIA	NAVY
OSD	USIA	NSA

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AIRGRAM

(ENCL. REPRODUCED IN PER)

PER BARNARD, ROBERT J
 XL PL 27 BIAFRA - NIGERIA

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HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : Department of State

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INFO : Lagos

JAN 8 12 31 PM 1968

FROM : AmEmbassy LONDON

DATE: Jan 5, 1968

SUBJECT: NIGERIA: Commonwealth Secretary Thomson Thanks Ambassador Bruce

REF : XX

The Embassy transmits herewith for the Department's information the text of a letter dated December 5 from Commonwealth Secretary Thomson to Ambassador Bruce expressing the British Government's gratitude for American assistance -- and especially that of US Consul Barnard in Enugu -- at the time of the closing of the UK High Commission office in Enugu. Ambassador Bruce's acknowledgement, dated December 11, is also enclosed.

BRUCE

Enclosures: *all m.m.*
 As stated.

ngb

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Drafted by:
 POL/R:A/MStearns:ps 1/3/67
 Clearances:
 AMB/SKrye *SK*

Contents and Classification Approved by:
 POL/WJGalloway *ngb*

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XR REF NIGERIA 26
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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 20, GPM 03, SC 01, RSC 01, USIA 12, H 02, NSC 10, L 03, INR 07, P 04,

CIA 04, DOD 01, SP 02, SS 20, SAH 03, SR 01, ORM 03, IO 15, NSA 02,

RSR 01, MM 01, 131 W

R 031030Z JAN 68
FM AMCONSUL KADUNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 582
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS 1223
AMCONSUL IBADAN 335

SOC 7 VAT

UNCLAS KADUNA 587

VATICAN MISSION ARRIVED KADUNA JANUARY 2 AND REPORTEDLY
WILL LEAVE JANUARY 3 ON TOUR OF MAKURDI REFUGEE CAMPS,
THEN TO NSUKKA, OGOJA, NKALAGU AND ENUGU. DURING CALL
ON CHAIRMAN INTERIM ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL HASSAN KATSINA,
MONSIGNOR CONWAY REPORTEDLY SAID THAT MISSION WAS
HUMANITARIAN AND NOT POLITICAL OR RELIGIOUS IN CHARACTER
BUT THAT THEY HOPED QTE TO PREVENT FURTHER MOURNING
AND DESTRUCTION UNQTE. HE FURTHER EXPRESSED HOPE THAT
MISSION COULD VISIT REBELS IF QTE FACILITY UNQTE COULD
BE ARRANGED. KATSINA REPORTEDLY OBSERVED THAT MISSION

PAGE 2 RUDSLK 587KK UNCLAS
ACCEPTED BY GOVERNMENT TO ALLOW MISSION TO QTE SEE FOR
THEMSELVES THAT CURRENT WAR NOT A RELIGIOUS ONE AS WAS BEING
PROPAGATED BY REBELS UNQTE. STOKES

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ACTION AF 06

INFO GPM 03, INR 07, EUR 08, FILE 01, RSR 01, MM 01, /027 W

P R 031530Z JAN 68
 FM USDAO/LAGOS
 TO DIA PRIORITY
 SECSTATE WASHDC
 CINCSTRIK
 CINCLANT
 INFO CIA WASHDC
 DA
 AMCONSUL IBADAN
 AMCONSUL KADUNA
 DA GRNC

C O N F I D E N T I A L 001 JAN 68. SGD HALLIGAN. COUNTRY: NIGERIA.
 SUBJECT: UPDATE CURRENT FMG/EASTERN MIL SITUATION. DIA FOR
 DIACO; CINCSTRIKE FOR STRJ2-C; DA FOR ACSI.

1. FOLLOWING AVAIL FROM USUALLY RELIABLE SOURCES ARMY HQ
 MORNING 3 JAN 68:

A. MIDWEST: REF PAR 1D, MY 0523 DEC 67; SOURCES SAY THAT
 COMMENCING O/A EARLY AM 30 DEC FED SECOND DIV ELEMENTS, IN
 STRENGTH, COMMENCED CROSSING NIGER RIVER FROM MIDWEST INTO EAST
 CENTRAL STATE "BETWEEN (WEST BANK) TOWNS ILLUSHI AND IDAH".
 PRECISE LOCATION CROSSING SITE NOT GIVEN BUT STATEMENT MADE THAT

PAGE 2 RUTALS 5545CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
 CROSSING SITE AFFORDED LINK UP WITH "GOOD ROAD NETWORK IN EAST
 CENTRAL STATE". (DISTINCT POSSIBILITY THIS RESPECT IS ROAD NET
 COMMENCING VILLAGE OGURUGU (0647N 0647E) FROM WHICH SECONDARY
 ROADS VARIOUS TYPES LEAD EAST AND SOUTH INTO EAST CENTRAL STATE.

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OTHER POSSIBILITIES ARE VILLAGES IGGA (0645N 0654E) AND UMUEJE (0640N 0658E) SOUTH OF OGURUGU FROM WHICH SECONDARY ROADS AND TRAILS ALSO LEAD EAST AND SOUTH. (SEE PAR 3C, MY 0474 NOV 67). SOURCES INDICATED DIVISION OBJECTIVE NOT ONITSHA (IMPLICATION ONITSHA WOULD BE BYPASSED FOR PRESENT). (IF THIS SO, IT LIKELY INITIAL DIV OBJECTIVE ROUTE TEN TOWNS AWKA (0613N 0710E) OR IUDI (0619N 0726E) OR BOTH. SOURCES CLAIM CROSSING "UNOPPOSED TO DATE" AND SUBSTANTIAL FORCE NOW ACROSS.

B. ENUGU AREA: C/S BISALLA RETURNED LAGOS 01 JAN FROM EIGHT DAY INSPECTION TOUR FEDERAL UNITS. BISALLA SPENT TWO DAYS ENUGU AND RETURNED "VERY PLEASED" AT GENERAL STATE FEDERAL ACTIVITIES THIS AREA. SOURCE RATES ENUGU UNDER FIRM FEDERAL CONTROL AS PATROLLING AND RELATED ACTIVITIES FED FIRST DIV HAVE BECOME MORE AGGRESSIVE RECENT WEEKS. ONE FED BN NOW BEING UTILIZED AS SECURITY FORCE ON SECONDARY ROAD NET RUNNING NORTH FROM VILLAGE EKE 0627N 0721E) WEST OF ROUTE THREE (MAIN LINE OF

PAGE RUTALS 5545CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
COMMUNICATIONS FROM NSUKKA AND NORTH). IT WAS FROM THIS AREA THAT REBEL HARRASSING ATTACKS ON FED MOVEMENTS ROUTE THREE HAVE BEEN MOUNTED. SOURCE SAID NEW FED TACTIC HAS MADE ROUTE THREE FROM NSUKKA TO NINE MILE CORNER SAFE FOR FEDERAL CONVOY AND RELATED TRAVEL. SOURCE SAID ROUTE ELEVEN FROM EMENE EAST THROUGH NKALAGU AND EASTWARD TO EAST BANK ABOINE RIVER (WHERE BRIFIE BLOWN) NOW CLEAR ANY SUBSTANTIAL EASTERN FORCE. SOURCE SAID AREA EAST AND SOUTH ENUGU ALONG LINE ABOINE/NYABA RIVER NOW UNDER FEDERAL COUNTRIL ALTHOUGH BRIDGE ACORSS NYABA RIVER, JUST EAST JUNCTION EKULU RIVER APPROX FIVE MILES SOUTH EAST EMENE, BLOWN BY REBEL FORCES.

C. CALABAR: ARMY STAFF SOURCES, SECONDED BY C/S, CLAIM "FRENCH SPEAKING MERCENARIES" OPERATING WITH REBEL FORCES PORT HARCOURT, CALABAR, BONNY AREA. SOURCES UNABLE PRODUCE "BODY" OR OTHER PROOF BUT SEEM ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN IN OWN MINDS SUCH IS ACASE. SOURCES SAY REBEL FORCES "WITH MERCENARIES" HAVE ADVANCE SOUTH ON ROUTE IKOT OPARA TO CALABAR TO POINT APPROX TEN MILES NORTH CALABAR WHERE FIGHTING TAKING PLACE VICINITY VILLAGE ODUKPENI. (ON 27/28 DEC, COMMERCIAL SOURCE BELIEVED COMPETENT OBSERVER WAS

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PAGE 03 041100Z

IN CALABAR AREA. SOURCE TOLD EMBASSY OFFICER THERE NO DOUBT THIS

PAGE 4 RTALS 5545CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
MIND FED FORCES CONTROLLED CALABAR CITY BUT "THERE FIGHTING TO
NORTH". SOURCE THOUGHT DISCIPLINE FED FORCES CALBAR "POOR"
ALTHOUGH SOURCE HIMSELF WELL TREATED BY THIRD DIV COMMANDER
COLONEL ADKEUNLE WHO PROVIDED MIL ESCORT FOR SOURCE WHILE IN
AREA. WHILE SOURCE IN CALABAR A "TWIN ENGINE" REBEL PLANE FLEW

OVER CITY AND WAS GREETED WITH "HEAVY FED AA FIRE" PLANE DROPPED
NOTHING THAT SOURCE SAW OR HEARD. SOURCE SAID FED SOLDIERS IN
AREA TOLD HIM THIS "FIRST TIME IN LONG TIME REBEL PLANE OVER
CALABAR".

D. BONNY: BONNY ISLAND COMPLEX NOT YET CLEARED REBEL FORCES AND
"HEAVY REBEL CHRISTMAS OFFENSIVE REPULSED WITH HEAVY REBEL LOSSES".
COMMANDER FEDERAL FORCES BONNY REPORTS HE SURE MERCENARIES BEING
USED HIS AREA. SOURCE SAID HE SAW "EIGHT MIGS" CALABAR FIELD OF
WHICH TWO APPEARED IN PROCESS "CANIBALIZATION". FOUR EXPAT PILOTS.
TWO EGYPTIANS, ONE "U.K. TYPE", ONE UNKNOWN-UNDER COMMAND
NIGERIAN AIR FORCE CAPTAIN WHO BRIEFED FOUR FOR MISSION "VICINITY
OBAN". SOURCE SAID COMARADERIE BETWEEN ALL PILOTS "EXCELLENT".
SOURCE SAID MAINTENANCE SUPERVISORS FOR MIGS CLEARLY "EUROPEAN
TYPES" BUT MECHANICS PERFORMING MAINTENANCE WERE "ORIENTAL IN
APPEARANCE (SIC)". SOURCE SAID TWO OR THREE NAF CARGO PLANES

PAGE 5 RTALS 5545CC C O N F I D E N T I A L
(F-27 AND OR DC3) ARRIVE EACH DAY FROM LAGOS.

2. NAVAL AND RELATED ACTIVITY:

A. FOLLOWING ARRIVALS SINCE LAST REPORT:

SDB NNS ENUGU 282030A. FRIGATE NNS NIGERIA 310910A. SDB NNS
SAPELE 310630A. LCT NNS LOKOJA 011020A (WOUNDED FROM BONNY
ABOARD). SDB NNS KADUNA 020320A.

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Authority	VND954503
By	MMNARA Date 10/5/05



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B. FOLLOWING DEPARTURES SINCE LAST REPORT:

SDB NNS ENUGU 291315A. GREEK FLAG COMMERCIAL VESSEL "ELAF
THRERIA" 021600A WITH COMMERCIAL CARGO FOR EUROPE (LAST TRIP
AS SEQUESTERED VESSEL TO CALABAR FOR NIGERIAN NAVY).

C. RELIABLE SOURCES CLAIM NAVY DESIRES PURCHASE BODE THOMAS FROM
NIGERIAN PORTS AUTHORITY. ALSO WISHED PURCHASE FARRELL LINE
OWNE, LIBERIAN REGISTERED COASTAL FREIGHTER "WARRIGI", UTILIZED
SEVERAL CHARTER RUNS BONNY AND/OR CALABAR FOR FULL TIME DUTY
NIGERIAN NAVY AUXILLIARIES. REPORTED TO HAVE DECIDED OFFER TWENTY
THOUSAND NIGERIAN POUNDS FOR WARRIGI. BELIEF IS FARREL LINES
WILL NOT ACCEPT THIS OFFER. GP-3.

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 20, IC 15, GPM 03, SC 01, RSC 01, USIA 12, H 02, NSC 10, L 03, INR 07,
P 04, CIA 04, DOD 01, SP 02, SS 20, SAH 03, NSA 02, AID 28, PC 04, RSR 01,
MM 01, 159 W

R 021828Z JAN 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8794
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA 1470
AMEMBASSY LONDON 1982
USUN 215
AMCONSUL IBADAN 1537
AMCONSUL KADUNA 1995

UNCLAS LAGOS 5534

SUBJECT: ADMINISTRATOR EAST CENTRAL STATE CALLS FOR CESSATION REBE-
-LLION

1. UKPABI ASIKA, ADMINISTRATOR FOR ENUGU AND LIBERATED AREAS
EAST CENTRAL STATE, MADE SPECIAL NEW YEAR'S BROADCAST TO PEOPLE
EAST CENTRAL STATE IN WHICH HE TOLD THEM TO CONTINUE TO FIGHT
IS MADNESS, NOT BRAVERY; SUICIDE, NOT COURAGE; BLINDNESS, NOT
WISDOM.

2. ASIKA, WHO IS IBO HIMSELF, SAID IBOS HAVE "MADE OUR POINT.
NO ONE WILL EVER AGAIN DARE TO TAKE IBOS FOR GRANTED."
ADDING "WE ARE RESPECTED AS BRAVE PEOPLE, AND AS NEQUALS. WE NOW
HAVE CONDITIONS FOR LIVING IN EQUALITY."

3. REAFFIRMING INTENTION FMG

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PAGE 2 RUDSLC 5534 UNCLAS
TO REHABILITATE ALL NIGERIANS WHO HAD BEEN DISPLACED BY TROUBLES OF
PAST TWO YEARS, ASIKA SAID FMG HAD SET ASIDE 4 MILLION POUNDS LAST
APRIL FOR WORK OF REHABILITATION. BUT, HE SAID, "FOR THIS WORK TO
BEGIN, WAR MUST END, WE MUST HAVE PEACE."

4. COMMENT FOLLOWS SEPTTEL.
MATHEWS

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By	MV NARA Date 10/5/05

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE AND RESEARCH

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*Intelligence
Note* - 1

January 2, 1968

To : The Secretary
Through: S/S
From : INR - Thomas L. Hughes
Subject: Nigeria's New Currency a Body Blow to Biafra

The replacement by the Federal Military Government (FMG) of Nigerian currency with new notes between January 3 and 22, after which the old notes will cease to be legal tender, will dry up Biafra's main source of foreign exchange and dim its chances for survival.

FMG Pulls the Plug. Biafra's discount sales in Europe of its stocks of Nigerian pounds have provided most of the exchange it has used for the purchase and delivery of war materiel. FMG measures to prevent the repatriation of these pounds only succeeded in lowering Biafra's return from the sales, but now the bottom will drop out of the market. Even if, as seems likely, Biafra's readily disposable supply of the old pounds is close to exhaustion, Colonel C. O. Ojukwu's regime had, until now, the possibility of replenishing it by further levies on Biafrans. Now, in view of its inability to export through the FMG blockade, Biafra is faced with having to coast on whatever foreign exchange it still has or is able to buy in any last-minute speculative flurry on the European market.

Economic Effects. The FMG move serves to tighten the blockade of Biafra. In self-defense Biafra will probably introduce a new currency of its own. The new currency, unlike the old, will have no purchasing power outside Biafra which will consequently become a less attractive market for traders who have provided badly needed salt and cattle in defiance of FMG edicts.

This report was produced by the Bureau of Intelligence and Research. Aside from normal substantive exchange with other agencies at the working level, it has not been coordinated elsewhere.

MEMORANDUM 01 53/1

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GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

FN 17 NIGERIA

FN 10 BIAFRA
POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
POL 272 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

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